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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 18938 FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1995 • NISSAN 7, 5755 • THU AL-QADAH 7, 1415 NIS 5.30 (EILAT NIS 4.50)

Histadrut paid for some Labor MKs' campaigns

BILL HUTMAN
LABOR Party members used Histadrut funds to pay for everything from portable phones to posters in their bids for election to the Knesset and top labor federation posts, according to documents turned over to police yesterday.
The documents detailed alleged wrongdoing by former Histadrut leaders Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar and Haim Haberfeld, Deputy Industry and Trade Minister Mascha Lubelsky, who formerly headed Na'amat, and MK Avi Yezhekel, former Histadrut administration and manpower division director.
Sources close to the probe said the material also widened the scope of the investigation, which until now has concentrated on the Histadrut company, Education and Culture Enterprises (Mifalei Hinech Veturbut).
The attempt to cover up the misuse of Histadrut funds involved many other Histadrut departments and affiliates, the documents reportedly showed.
The documents, including a Histadrut comptroller's report, were turned over to Supt. Moshe Fishman by MK Shmuel Avital, who heads the education and technical education department (Continued on Page 6)



Israel's ambassador to Jordan Shimon Shamir (second from right) is escorted across the Allenby Bridge yesterday on his way to take up his post in Amman. (Reuters)

Israel, Jordan exchange first ambassadors

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies
ISRAEL and Jordan exchanged ambassadors for the first time yesterday, with both new envoys expressing the hope that the peace between governments would become "a peace between peoples."
"We have to now make peace between the people, not just the governments," Marwan Muasher told reporters after arriving here, accompanied by his wife, Leen.
"Peace between governments is always the first step," said Shimon Shamir, upon arriving in Amman with his wife, Daniella.
"Then we should continue and have peace between peoples... through hard work and above all through open dialogue."
Both men are to present credentials and officially take up their posts on April 10. The countries have been represented at the charges d'affaires level since signing the peace treaty in October.
Muasher, 38, the former spokesman for Jordan's peace negotiating team, and Shamir, 62, a former professor at Tel Aviv University and ambassador to Egypt, assumed their posts amid growing opposition by Palestinians in Jordan to the normalization process.
In a statement made before leaving his country, Muasher said (Continued on Page 6)



Jordanian ambassador to Israel Marwan Muasher (right) is greeted upon his arrival in Tel Aviv by members of his staff. (Rivka Pines)

Soldier hurt as jeep sets off bomb near Nahal Oz

ALON PINKAS
A soldier was wounded last night when a patrol jeep set off a roadside bomb as it was patrolling the Gaza Strip perimeter fence north of the Erez checkpoint, near Kibbutz Nahal Oz.
One soldier was thrown out of the vehicle and sustained moderate wounds. He was taken to Soroka Hospital in Beersheba.
In their preliminary debriefing, the soldiers said that immediately after the explosion, shots were fired at them from across the fence. They said they shot back at what seemed to be several individuals retreating away from the fence.

Plans for 5,600 more homes in territories

HERB KEINON and JON IMMANUEL
HOUSING Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer will ask the ministerial committee on settlements on Sunday to approve plans for an additional 5,600 homes beyond the Green Line.
At the same time, a senior IDF source said there is no plan to evacuate settlements in Judea and Samaria in any of the redeployment plans for this year, but there are contingency plans for not redeploying at all.
According to the Oslo agreement, the issue of settlements is not supposed to be negotiated until next year.
Media reports, based on a Housing Ministry document, said Ben-Eliezer will submit plans for the construction of 1,800 homes in the haredi settlement of Kiryat Sefer in the Modi'in region, 3,000 in Ma'aleh Adumim, just east of Jerusalem, and 800 in Givat Ze'ev, just northwest of the capital.
In addition, Ben-Eliezer reportedly will ask for approval to sell or rent 85 of the 200 homes in Karmel Shomron in Samaria that the government built, but never put up for sale. The committee will also be asked to approve the sale of 35 mobile homes to the settlement of Betar, in Gush Etzion, to be used by schools there.
Ben-Eliezer would not comment on the reports last night.
Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said that Meretz is steadfastly opposed to the addition of any new residents in the territories.
Peace Now, which is planning a protest vigil outside the Prime Minister's Office when the committee meets, issued a statement saying that if the committee approves the plan, "it will undermine the peace process it is trying to advance."
The ministerial committee was set up in January after the controversy concerning building on Givat Hatamar in Efrat, to more carefully monitor construction in the settlements.
In its first meeting in January, the committee approved plans for construction of 1,800 homes in Ma'aleh Adumim, 900 in Betar, and 800 in Givat Ze'ev.
Meanwhile, PLO leader Yasser Arafat said in an interview with the London-based Saudi weekly *A-Shark al-Awsat* that if there is no agreement on redeployment by the agreed target date of July 1, he will call for international arbitration.

Peres, Moussa fail to settle dispute on signing of NPT

PARIS (Reuters) - The foreign ministers of Israel and Egypt failed yesterday to settle a dispute over Israel's refusal to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), but they did agree to continue their dialogue.
"No, the situation remains the same," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said after talks in Paris when asked whether the dispute - which has jeopardized the extension of the NPT - had been settled.
But Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said after their talks that the two men planned to meet again after reporting the results of yesterday's talks to their respective governments.
"Ideas were exchanged to make things move. We must continue the dialogue and we cannot leave this question without continuing the dialogue," Moussa told reporters.
"We have arrived at a framework for dialogue and the pursuit of dialogue," Moussa said. He did not specify, however, where or when the second meeting would take place.
A four-week international conference to discuss extending the 25-year-old NPT opens on April 17 in New York.
(Continued on Page 6)

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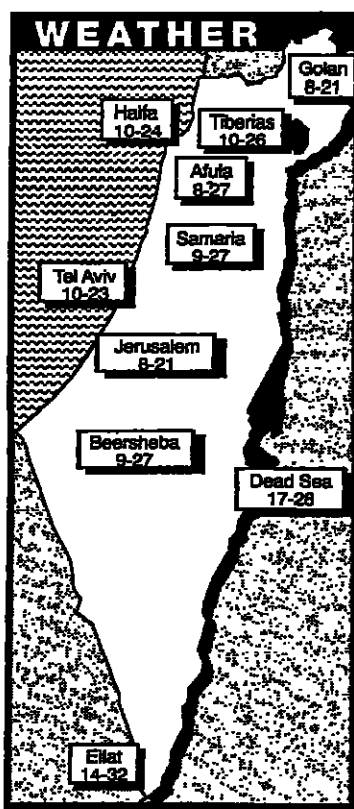
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Winning numbers & cards

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 141452 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 176754 won a car.

Tickets numbered 689180, 211691, 520315, 594688, 139957, 511750, 089970 and 448096 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 03659, 90338, 16417, 66750, 34390, 17500, 16357, 93618, 87795, 34743, 81599, 16694, 22784, 98994, 41071, 78876, 21189, 76113 and 63667 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 567, 092, 832, 681, and 952 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 06, 95, 73, 96 and 92 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 2 and 5 won NIS 8.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the seven of spades, nine of hearts, ace of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

Correction

The photograph that appeared on Page 12 of yesterday's paper was taken by Yitzhak Elharar and not as printed.



US special coordinator for the Middle East Dennis Ross (left) and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin meet yesterday on the first leg of Ross's swing through the Middle East, which will also take him to Damascus. (Reuters)

Ross here for talks; off to Damascus today

DAVID MAKOVSKY

US SPECIAL coordinator for Middle East peace talks Dennis Ross arrived here yesterday to bridge an impasse between Israel and Syria on conceptual differences regarding security arrangements.

Ross also hopes to broaden current Washington talks on security arrangements to include senior Israeli and Syrian military officials.

He held talks yesterday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and other top IDF officials.

After stopping in Gaza today, Ross is expected to continue to Damascus, where he is likely to meet Syrian President Hafez Assad and Syrian Chief of Staff Gen. Hikmet Shihabi. Ross is expected to return to Israel tomorrow, where he will hold further talks with Rabin in the evening.

It remains an open question whether the military talks, should they resume, would be held on the Shabak-Shihabi level, or whether they would involve lower-level officers.

After one round of talks involving the chiefs of staff of both countries last December, Syria broke off the talks, alleging that Israeli proposals were not serious.

The talks were suspended for three months until Secretary of State Warren Christopher last month succeeded in restoring ambassadorial talks between Israel's envoy to the US Itamar Rabinovich and his Syrian counterpart, Walid Mualeem.

The Rabinovich-Mualeem talks were supposed to form the conceptual base for the concrete negotiations between military officers on security arrangements. However, Rabin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee this week that those talks are at an impasse. Syria is insisting that the basis of

negotiations on security arrangements be aggregate "equality" for both sides.

Syria says that if Israel is given an advantage in one sphere of security arrangements, then Damascus should be compensated in another sphere. Israel does not accept this, noting that it is the one that is being asked to withdraw from the Golan Heights. Instead, Israel has offered the vaguer notion that security arrangements be based on "mutuality."

Meanwhile, Syrian Defense Minister Lt. Gen. Mustafa Tlass yesterday urged Syrian forces to face alleged Israeli schemes to dominate the Middle East militarily, AP reported.

Tlass spoke at a graduation ceremony of army officers, which coincided with Ross's arrival in Israel. "Our national struggle is now passing through a very sensitive stage that requires us to take firm and decisive stands to foil Israel's attempts to impose its hegemony on the Arabs," he said, but did not elaborate on the alleged Israeli plot. He said Syria would not compromise on its "rights and dignity."

Arabs encourage US to dump Arafat

SHMUEL SEGEV

NEW YORK

ARAB heads of state who have visited Washington recently have reportedly encouraged the Clinton administration to dump Yasser Arafat and to support Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) as the new chairman of the PLO.

In private discussions, senior Arab officials said Arafat has proven he is incapable of transforming himself from a revolutionary into a statesman, and that the next stage in the peace process necessitates another leader for the Palestinian people.

While stressing that the Oslo accord cannot be reversed, the officials said that the Palestinian people deserve "a more worldly" leader who is "credible and visionary."

They said they have encouraged Abbas to return to the territories and take charge of the future negotiations with Israel, but that he claims that Arafat insists on being part of all negotiations and, in such a situation, he does not want to be part of a process that would lead nowhere.

PA Police: No Israeli hand in bomb blast

JON IMMANUEL

THERE is no truth to a claim by Hamas that Israel was involved in the explosion that destroyed a bomb factory in Gaza on Sunday, Palestinian Police insisted yesterday.

Hamas issued a leaflet yesterday saying a man with a suitcase came to the apartment and handed it to a small boy who took it inside. The apartment exploded minutes later.

"We made an official statement that the bomb explosion was caused by tampering with explosives," a senior officer in the Palestinian security police said. "But what do you expect them to say? They did something really dangerous, really nasty."

(Continued on page 6)

NEWS IN BRIEF

PA: Israel unfairly demanding taxes

The Palestinian Authority's Finance Ministry says that Israel is demanding taxes from merchants who live in Jerusalem, but who own businesses outside Jerusalem and therefore owe taxes to the Palestinian Authority. A notice in the daily *A-Quds* yesterday said, "The Israeli occupation authorities in the West Bank have been summoning Palestinian taxpayers from Jerusalem who have businesses in the West Bank to give them tax books. This measure violates the early empowerment agreement signed in Cairo on August 24, 1994."

Annex 5 of the agreement states that "the Palestinian Authority will levy and collect income tax on Palestinians in respect of income accrued or derived in the West Bank."

Grindlays reopening branch

An Australian-owned British bank was given permission yesterday to reopen branches in Judea and Samaria closed since the early 1970's. The civil administration said ANZ Grindlays Bank will re-open its first branch in Nablus tomorrow. ANZ Grindlays operated in the area as the Ottoman Bank under the former Jordanian rule and for a few years after the Six Day War, the army said. (Reuters)

PA should seize arms, says US

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

THE US believes the Palestinian Authority is aware of those owning weapons in the self-ruled areas, yet has not acted to seize the arms.

The PA "should be taking steps to confiscate weapons that are in private hands," Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Robert Pelletreau told the House International Relations Committee yesterday.

"They know where those weapons are, and should start taking more vigorous steps to confiscate them," he said.

The hearing dealt in large part with the US view of Russia's agreement to build nuclear reactors for Iran.

Pelletreau also said that PA Chairman Yasser Arafat has tended to "manipulate people around him and does not delegate authority."

He said that this is "one of the factors that has retarded" the funding from donor nations.

Delays in Congressional approval of US debt relief to Jordan is "creating shock waves" in the kingdom, Pelletreau also said.

House ready to approve write-off of Amman debt

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

THE House of Representatives is now committed to approve the full \$275 million in Jordanian debt relief, clearing the way for the resolution of the matter.

House and Senate conferees reached agreement at a Wednesday night session to reconcile differing debt relief bills. An aide to a key senator called the decision "a very positive development," because "we have put to bed forever the possibility of providing only \$50m," as the House decided last month.

House Republicans refused Wednesday to insert the debt relief into a defense supplemental bill, but rather put it into a disaster relief bill. That was presumably done for political purposes, as the latter bill contains \$17 billion in domestic spending cuts, thus challenging President Clinton to either approve the cuts or veto them with Jordanian aid.

In a compromise, the conferees said, "It is our full intention to approve an appropriation of \$275 million," and to "affirm fully" Clinton's commitment to the write-off made to King Hussein last summer.

Even if the disaster relief bill should fail, the conferees said, the debt relief would be contained in foreign appropriations for 1996.

Marilyn Henry adds from New York: King Hussein made an oblique appeal for assistance in resolving the looming political conflict over forgiving Jordan's debt, when he met with Jewish leaders here yesterday. "It is my hope that the United States will be able to live up to its commitments to us," he said, referring to the Clinton administration's pledge to write off Jordan's debt.

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Handful of MKs go north to hear complaints

vote for the budget if they are not fulfilled.

Dayan made it clear the MKs were on a working visit to meet local residents and ascertain that the government was honoring its obligations to confrontation line settlements, "whether development towns, moshavim, or kibbutzim."

ity, infrastructure and the continuation of aid for security matters, which had not been fulfilled.

on the security situation by OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine. They are due to visit Western Galilee today.

that all hotels and guest houses in the region are fully booked for Pes-sah, and no cancellations had been reported because of the attacks.

The situation north of the border remained relatively quiet, despite long-range attacks on South Lebanese Army positions.

Sneh considers delaying water-filtering termed urgent by state-comptroller

ALTHOUGH the state comptroller called for the urgent filtering of all drinking water from the national water carrier in her 1989 annual report, planning for the proposed \$100 million filtration facility at Beit Nekofa has not yet been completed.

will ask a public committee of filtration experts to present a detailed plan of the project by October and, after studying it, would decide on whether to extend the deadline.

Shalom Goldberger, deputy chief of engineering at the Health Ministry's environmental health department, said it is vital to begin filtration. But if the Beit Nefek facility will not be ready in nine months, there is "little choice but to approve a January 1997 starting date."

Cheapest basket

IN a pre-Pessah survey of eight supermarkets and hypermarkets, the Israel Consumer Council found the least expensive to be the Hypershuk on Rehov Hamaccabim in Petah Tikva. A basket of 44 basic holiday-related products came to NIS 324.35.

Suspect gets to renew private eye license

EVELYN GORDON

THE licensing board for private investigators should reconsider its decision not to renew the license of suspected wiretapper Ya'acov Tsur, the Supreme Court said yesterday.

Tsur has been indicted for wiretapping journalists, businessmen, and politicians, as part of the major wiretapping investigation involving *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot Aharonot*.

The board appealed to the Supreme Court. Justices Shlomo Levine, Gavriel Bach, and Eliezer Goldberg rejected one of the major claims raised by Tsur's lawyer, but upheld the claim that an indictment in and of itself was not reason enough to take away Tsur's license. Instead, they said, the licensing board must examine the evidence on which the indictment was based.

Only if the board found *prima facie* evidence of a crime would it be justified in revoking Tsur's license, they said.

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CO OP

B L U E

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Reckless aid

THE kibbutz is a uniquely Israeli phenomenon. Only in Israel has this experiment at communal living succeeded. And the contribution the kibbutz has made to the character, values and ideals of Israeli society is substantial. Perhaps most important, many kibbutzim have been in the vanguard of the country's defense, not only because some kibbutzim have been situated in "confrontation" areas, but because kibbutz members have played a disproportionate role in the army's elite combat units and high command.

As long as the kibbutzim's presence in vital areas was a security imperative, no one questioned their economic viability. But now most kibbutzim are no longer vital strategic assets, and many are an enormous economic burden. To ensure their continued existence through vast public subsidies is something Israel cannot afford; to let them die is not only cruel and ungrateful, it would mean the destruction of a precious, integral part of Israeli society.

That the government has decided in favor of rescuing the kibbutzim is hardly surprising. The vast majority of kibbutz members are Labor and Meretz voters, and it is only natural for the government to respond to its constituency. Yet it is doubtful that any government could have ignored their plight.

But the cost of this rescue - NIS 5.9 billion - is exorbitant. True, the government has stipulated that the whole kibbutz movement be treated as a unit, and that the richer kibbutzim help in the rescue operation. A third of the land owned by kibbutzim in the country's center, where land values are high, will be sold, realizing an estimated NIS 2 billion. The other NIS 3.9b. will be "forgiven" by the banks and the government. Finance Minister Avraham Shohat says that he will try to get the banks to assume 70 percent of the debts, leaving the government with only 30% of the burden. But this is less a matter of substance than of bookkeeping, designed to placate taxpayers. Ultimately, it is the taxpayer who will be footing the whole bill.

That the kibbutzim are being forced to act like any other concern and sell assets to cover outstanding debts is a salutary development. It is the first time such a condition has been made by the government, and it is sorely overdue. What is less reasonable is that the kibbutzim are required to cover only one third of the debt, while the land that can be painlessly placed on

the market is worth many times this amount. In fact, kibbutz land close to urban areas should have been sold long ago, regardless of the kibbutzim's financial travails. As Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein has wisely observed, the sale of these tracts would reduce the unconscionably high price of land and make the building of homes for immigrants and the development of industrial parks far more viable. To keep valuable lands idle, or to use them for uneconomic agricultural purposes, plainly undermines the country's development.

But the government's agreement to the sale of only small parcels of kibbutz lands is not the only drawback in the deal. The most glaring and inexcusable flaw in the arrangement is that the government has not insisted - as any financial rescuer must - on a stringent, closely monitored recovery plan for the debt-ridden kibbutzim. Without such a program, there is every reason to believe that the current scenario will be played out again within a few years.

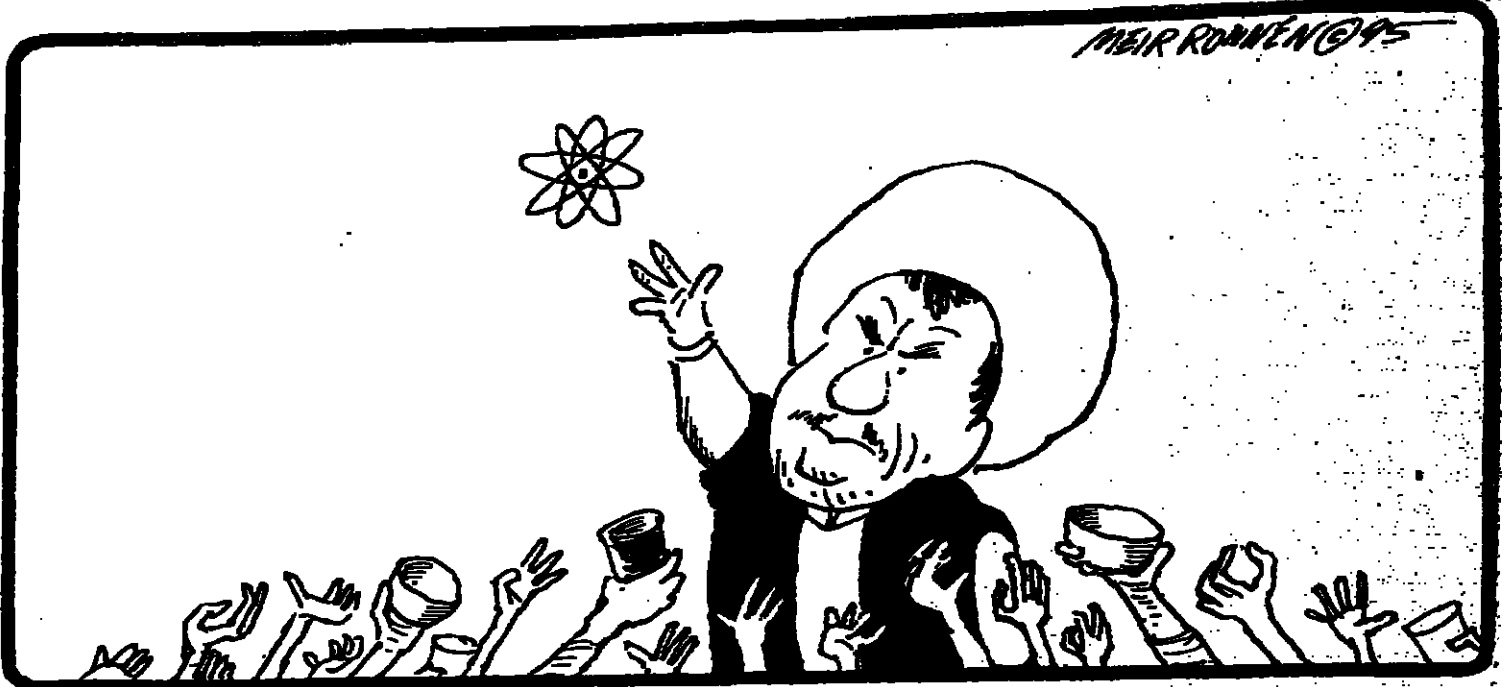
As MK Dan Tichon (Likud) pointed out on Wednesday, the kibbutzim received the equivalent of some NIS 13 billion in today's money during the previous debt arrangement, in 1989. At that time, the kibbutzim promised - as they are doing now - that they would not ask for additional government help.

Nor can taxpayers accept a deal that would cost them at least NIS 4b. without knowing anything about the assets of the beneficiaries. With good reason, Likud MK Michael Eitan is threatening to take the matter to the High Court of Justice unless an accounting of the kibbutzim's assets is forthcoming. After all, vast amounts of public funds are at stake. And to assume that the kibbutzim are needy and that they deserve to be bailed out only because they say so is to open the national till to an uncontrollable raid.

As international financial institutions have discovered, no one benefits from blind generosity. If anything, it encourages irresponsibility, profligacy and, ultimately, impoverishment. That is why accountability, transparency and recovery plans are the bywords of international aid. For the government, itself under financial pressure, to give the kibbutzim what amounts to a blank check without demanding that elementary conditions for public aid be met is as reckless as it is contemptuous of the public good.

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Relocate the US Embassy now

PHIL GRAMM

I have long held that the current Arab-Israeli peace process must be judged by one question, and one question only: Will Israel be stronger and more secure at the end of the process than it was at the beginning?

To help achieve that end, I strongly advocate moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem and recognizing Israel's sovereignty over an undivided Jerusalem.

Unless the US takes this simple step - and takes it soon - pressure to redress Jerusalem will build quickly. And the consequences of such a redress will be spelled out with stark clarity by former mayor or Teddy Kollek.

"I cannot imagine," Kollek wrote in his autobiography, "how the Jewish people and the State of Israel could survive such a blow intact."

Unfortunately, successive American administrations have refused to locate the embassy in Jerusalem, even though Jerusalem is Israel's chosen seat of government, where its parliament, prime ministry, Supreme Court,

and most government ministries are located.

Moving the embassy would be consistent with American practice throughout the world.

The United States has diplomatic relations with 184 coun-

tries, and in every country - except Israel - locates its embassy in the capital designated by the host nation.

Refusal to locate the embassy in Jerusalem is especially harmful now that Israeli-Palestinian negotiations to determine Jerusalem's final status are only a year away.

THE Clinton administration argues that moving the embassy to Jerusalem will destroy the peace process. In fact, the peace process can continue only if Israelis believe that their nation's vital interests will not be compromised. Moving the embassy to Jerusalem will strengthen that conviction.

President Clinton seems to believe that the only way to promote peace in the Middle East is by sending Secretary of State Warren Christopher on yet another shuttle to Damascus, or extracting one more pledge from Yasser Arafat to abide by the terms of the Declaration of Principles he signed on the White House lawn in 1993.

The results of this tiresome approach are clear: The peace process is floundering, and unless it gets a shot in the arm soon, it

could fail.

Moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem will reinvigorate the peace process. It will tell Israel that the peace process is not, as increasingly large numbers of Israelis suspect, an elaborate ruse designed to force Israel back to pre-1967 lines.

Jerusalem is, as Kollek says, "the heart and soul of the Jewish people." It is clear to me, after having visited Israel many times during my tenure in Congress, that Jerusalem is more than the heart and soul of the Jewish people; it is their lifeblood, their vitality, and their voice to the world. Jerusalem must never be reddivided.

Moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem would send an unmistakable signal that the unity of Jerusalem is irreversible, and that it will remain, now and forever, the capital of Israel.

The writer is a US senator from Texas and a candidate for the Republican nomination for president.

A move to the capital will show Israelis that the peace process isn't a ruse

The draft that became a dead letter

YOSSI BEN-AHARON

DURING a recent visit to Washington, my colleague Yigal Carmon and I were told by New York Senator Alphonse D'Amato's chief of staff that his office had drafted legislation that would have mandated the transfer of the US Embassy to Jerusalem in 1996, the millennium celebration of King David's declaration of Jerusalem as capital of the united Kingdom of Israel.

Shortly after, the senator's office was approached by AIPAC and by the President's Conference, apparently at the behest of the Israel Embassy, and was told that the proposal would torpedo the peace process. After some consultation, a compromise was formulated.

Instead of mandatory legislation, a letter was drafted and circulated among the senators. In that letter to Secretary Christopher, the senators wrote that they "believe that the United States Embassy belongs in Jerusalem" and therefore "it would be most appropriate for planning to begin now to ensure such a move no later than the agreements on 'permanent status' take effect and the transition period has ended, which, according to the Declaration of Principles, is scheduled for May 1999."

Considering the wide gap between the two sides, it is probable that no agreement will be reached by May 1999 or at any time. The State Department could then postpone recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, delay the transfer of its embassy to the city indefinitely, and base its position on the linkage in the Senate letter.

This is no hypothetical conjecture. There is every chance that the PLO will repeat its present threat that passage of the resolution on Jerusalem by Congress will blow up the entire peace process, and the threat will be supported by the Arab states.

THE RABIN government has staked its reputation - even its survival - on the success of its gamble with the PLO. It is not surprising, therefore, that it has signaled its readiness to concede even on Israel's sovereignty over united Jerusalem. It has formally agreed to include Jerusalem as an item in the "permanent-status" negotiations with the PLO.

Furthermore, Foreign Minister Peres wrote a letter to Yasser Arafat in which he promised the PLO that his government would safeguard the existence of certain PLO institutions and interests in Jerusalem.

What I find difficult to comprehend, however, is the action of some of the American Jewish organizations that interceded with the Senate in order to kill a mea-

sure that would finally have put an end to the anomaly of the non-recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

After all, Jerusalem isn't a strictly Israeli issue. In many respects, the city has always been considered the capital of the entire Jewish people, the object of thousands of years of prayer and longing by generations. If these organizations were prompted by the desire to prevent damage to the peace process, they might have paused to consider the possibility that they could be causing harm to the status of Jerusalem.

The 97 senators who signed the letter initiated by Senators D'Amato and Patrick Moynihan acted out of friendship for Israel.

Unfortunately, it may well turn out that the gesture contributed nothing to the peace process, that it created an obstacle to the normalization of the status of united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, and the Jewish people.

It would have been far better for no letter to have been written at all, rather than one which compromises Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem.

The writer is a former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PRO-PLO

Sir, - Martin Gidron (Gorvine) is incensed as what he calls the Post's "slandering branding" of feminist Letty Cottin Pogrebin as being "pro-PLO," and cites her book *Deborah, Golda and Me*, which he says is devoted to her struggles with antisemitism and Israel haters to prove otherwise (Letters, March 23).

In the book Gidron cites, Pogrebin describes (pp. 331-334) how in March 1978, she arranged for PLO representative Raymonda Tawil to be the featured speaker at a program sponsored by Ms. in the King David Hotel, where Tawil announced: "There is no place for the Jew in the Middle East." As a liberal, Pogrebin naturally wanted to be fair, so she balanced the program with a Jewish speaker - Leah Tsemel, the vocal defender of Arab terrorist murderers of Jews, whom Pogrebin concedes is "an outspoken anti-Zionist [who] opposes... the very concept of a Jewish state."

To be pro-PLO, Mr. Gidron, does not mean that one need go so far as to personally commit acts of terror against Jews. Indeed, Pogrebin tells Tawil that "killing people isn't armed struggle, it's murder." It is enough to dance on your roof in glee as did pro-PLO Arabs when Iraqi missiles fell in Ramat Gan, or for a Jewish liberal to arrange a blatantly one-sided pro-PLO program in which a platform is provided for those who would destroy the Jewish state - and none for those who oppose them.

MICHAEL KAUFMAN
Jerusalem.

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESSMAN

Sir, - I was interested to read in the *Jerusalem Post* of April 3 (page 8) about the appearance of a new big business bloke in Australia, "the Australian newspaper magnate Cary Pecker."

Of course, at first I thought you might mean Kerry Pecker, but he doesn't own any big newspaper, just television stations, publishing houses, Australian cricket, and about half the country. I heard he's trying to buy rugby league football at the moment, but Rupert Murdoch might have got in first.

DAVID SHAW
Jerusalem.

DUMPING IN THE NEGEV

Sir, - At a conference on the government's plans for the Duda'im site, organized jointly by the Negev Center for Regional Development and the Beersheba Municipality on February 27, a collection of press clippings about the issue was distributed to participants.

While we were happy to see that the Post paid attention to this important issue, we were shocked to discover that your editorial of February 27, "Dumping on Beersheba," makes no mention of its source. The article quotes Professor Dov Skibin, one of the authors of the position paper on the Duda'im site published by the Negev Center for Regional Development at Ben-Gurion University. Although parts of the article quote the English summary of the position paper practically word for word, with minimal paraphrasing, no mention is made of the Negev Center, or of the publication in which Professor Skibin made his views public.

DEBBIE GOLDMAN GOLAN,
Administrator,
Negev Center for Regional Development
Beersheba.

The *Jerusalem Post* regrets the oversight. - Ed. J.P.

SPEEDING

Sir, - Dr. Eiluh Richter's article of March 24, "Case of administrative murder," offers a rather simplistic approach to the problem of highway carnage, limiting his discussion solely to vehicle speed. No question, speed is a contributing factor, reducing available reaction time, but, until we Israelis begin to examine our behavior on the highways, the number and severity of accidents can only increase.

Principal among the causes of highway accidents is our tendency to act impetuously. Reckless and irresponsible drivers who tailgate or disregard traffic signs are a far greater hazard on the highway than prudent drivers observing the increased legal speed limit.

We must not permit our obsession with highway speed, per se, to obscure the true causes of road accidents.

A.J. LAND
Upper Nazareth.

CASINOS IN ISRAEL

Sir, - I refer to your letter of March 27 about casinos in Israel. The operation of casinos in Israel is not formally forbidden because of the objections of the religious parties, but because of the fear that such enterprises would certainly cause all sorts of immoral and objectionable activities.

None of my friends belongs to any of the religious parties, but we are all strongly against the idea of opening casinos in Israel. Money should be earned by honest work and not by playing in casinos. We have already enough broken families because of card-playing for high stakes and related activities. Nor do we need the coffers of the Israel treasury to be filled with that sort of money. Finally, our tourist industry has grown very nicely without casinos. And we rather like tourists who come to see the beauty of Israel, its beaches and parks, and not in order to play in casinos.

Ramat Gan.

LIESE WEISS

ISRAELI POLICEMEN

Sir, - I was brought up on the principle that "the policeman is our friend," and that he is an example in helpful behavior as well as in good driving. Well, I am repeatedly discovering that this is not the case here.

In demonstrations I was present at lately, various policemen have been very rude and unnecessarily aggressive, to say the least. We were treated as if we are rowdy hooligans, instead of middle-aged respectable citizens. I have yet to ask a policeman for help and get it graciously. Generally, drivers of police cars that I have seen do not adhere to any rules that most people are obliged to obey.

Policemen in Israel have an exceptionally difficult job and work under stressful conditions. However, I do not consider that to be an excuse for less than proper behavior. The police force is a public service; apparently they need to be reminded of this. I would hope to see a great deal of improvement in the near future - or is that another impossible dream?

S.H.
(Name and address supplied)
Jerusalem.

POSTSCRIPTS

A MAN HAULED into court for padding his 10-year-old son was spanked by a police officer with the same wooden paddle.

The charge of domestic violence was dropped against the unidentified 33-year-old man of Dayton, Ohio, after he, his lawyer and prosecutors agreed on the punishment.

The man was given three whacks on the buttocks by a police officer as the man's mother watched.

"This type of disposition is highly unusual but we are not averse to unique solutions to certain cases," the judge said.

RESIDENTS OF a British old-age home vowed to fight plans to build a funeral parlor on their doorstep, saying it is too close for comfort.

The 25 residents at the home in Hull will overlook the site. They said they did not want to spend their last years watching hearses come and go.

"It's disgraceful. We don't want to see coffins being carried out while we're relaxing," Madge Bowen, 87, said.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



Benetton's newest campaign makes fashion models out of ordinary Gaza youths, as if they run around all day in such fancy duds. The Strip show includes this photo of 17-year-old Fadel, who, strangely, is holding a soccer ball with a pattern that looks very much like a Star of David. (AP)

Worst-case scenarios

JAMES T. HACKETT

LIKE a minor earthquake, the gas attacks in the Japanese subway last month could be an indicator of worse to come. For years the experts have been warning that a very small amount of chemical or biological agent could cause large numbers of casualties.

Sarin, the gas released at five different locations in the Tokyo subway, is a deadly nerve gas produced for use in warfare. The sarin used in Tokyo was greatly diluted, presumably to protect the terrorists who carried and released it - yet it killed 10, hospitalized more than 700, and injured over 5,000 people.

While the Tokyo gas appears to have been made by a strange cult, most nerve gas is produced by governments for military purposes, or as a deterrent to prevent its use by others. Since it is easy to make from readily available chemicals, it is impossible to say how many countries have supplies of poison gas, especially in small quantities.

Large production plants can be identified, however, and some 15 countries are known to produce and maintain stocks of poison gas. It is unsettling to see what countries are on that list. All of the so-called rogue regimes of Libya, Syria, Iran, Iraq and North Korea, the main sponsors of international terrorism, have or have had large supplies of poison gas.

Other countries with stocks of poison gas include Russia, China, Egypt, India and Pakistan. While not currently hostile to the US or its allies, these countries often are characterized by political instability, ethnic disputes and regional conflicts.

In the 1980s Iraq and Iran used gas against each other during the Iran-Iraq war. Iraq used large quantities of both sarin and mustard gas against Iranian troops, many of whom were teenagers. Iraqi officers boasted that they could start mass retreats just by firing smoke grenades, so great was the fear of poison gas in the Iranian ranks.

Most horrifying, however, was Iraq's use of sarin against its own

people. In 1988, Iraqi aircraft sprayed sarin on the Kurdish village of Halabja in northern Iraq, killing men, women and children indiscriminately.

IT WAS this ugly record that Saddam Hussein brought to the Gulf war, threatening to "burn half of Israel" with poison gas. Israeli civilians and US soldiers alike donned gas masks with every Scud attack, but gas was not used, perhaps because Saddam Hussein thought it would handicap his effort to win international support.

Whatever his reason, it was not a lack of chemical weapons. Af-

The ability to intercept missiles carrying poison gas needs improving

ter the war, UN inspectors found 26,000 chemical weapons containing 550 tons of mustard gas and sarin in Iraq. Twelve different types of gas munitions were found, including artillery shells, mortars, rockets, cluster bombs and aerial sprays.

Also discovered were 30 ballistic missile warheads that had been modified to carry chemical weapons. UN inspectors destroyed all the gas munitions they could find, but conceded that some may still be hidden.

CIA officials have said that if the UN sanctions on Iraq are lifted, poison gas production could resume immediately.

Of equal concern are the huge chemical weapons production plants in Libya, Syria and Iran, countries that both support international terrorism and are developing or buying ballistic missiles. Last year, Syria began assembling the North Korean Scud-C missile, which has the range Syria needs to deliver poison gas to Israeli cities.

Iran is producing a half a dozen different missiles and is helping to finance a version of the new

medium-range North Korean No-dong missile that will be able to reach from Iran to Israel. For its part, Libya is trying to buy long-range missiles from China, North Korea and other sources.

The Clinton administration hopes to deal with this threat by ratifying the 1994 Chemical Weapons Convention, which bans the production, transfer and use of such weapons.

It is unlikely that the rogue regimes most likely to use chemical weapons will sign the convention, but even if they do, their record of treaty compliance is not good. Iran and Iraq, for example, signed the 1925 Geneva Protocol promising not to use poison gas, yet both did so.

It is a dangerous delusion to think that these regimes will change their ways because of yet another treaty. Last year, CIA director James Woolsey said he did not have "high confidence in our ability to detect noncompliance with this treaty." It is just too easy to make poison gas undetected.

It is more important to take defensive measures. Police and medical personnel in metropolitan areas must be trained and equipped to deal with a terrorist gas attack. The possibility of chemical weapons being delivered by aircraft or missile against US military personnel or US allies, even in a limited conflict, is also real. The best defense is not an unverifiable treaty, but the ability to shoot down aircraft and missiles far from their intended targets.

US and Israeli forces are well equipped to deal with hostile aircraft, but their ability to intercept missiles needs improvement. The large supplies of poison gas in the hands of the rogue regimes and their growing ability to deliver it by missile makes the early deployment of effective missile defenses a high priority. The Israeli Arrow and the US Theater High Altitude Area Defense interceptors will meet that need.

The writer is policy operations manager of Titan Systems, San Diego.

The court: Guilty of contempt for other people's time

EVELYN GORDON

AS a new immigrant, I quickly learned the first rule of Israeli life: Never go anywhere without a book. Wherever you go, you will almost certainly have to wait, so you may as well use the time profitably.

In most places, the wait is unintentional - a function of too many people converging on too few clerks. But there is one place where people are clearly kept waiting deliberately: the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has a policy of scheduling six or more cases a day for each panel of justices - all at 9 a.m. Obviously, only one of the six cases can really be heard at 9, but since no one knows which it will be, all the parties to all the cases must arrive

Better that an ordinary person wait for four hours than that judges be forced to waste 10 minutes

by 9. The unlucky ones may not have their cases begin for another four hours.

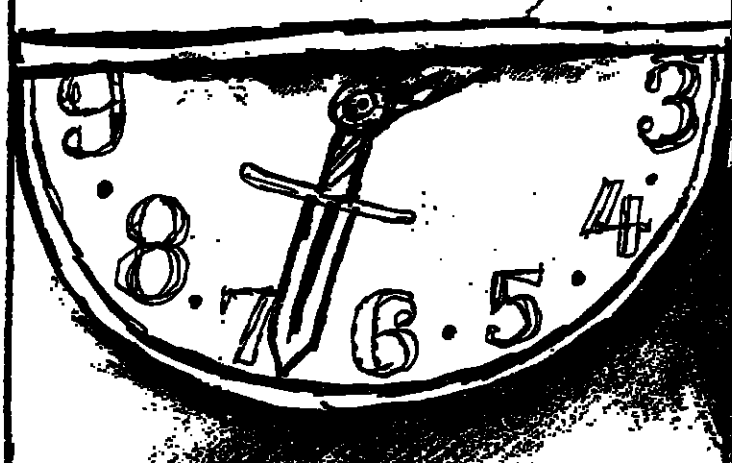
The fact that hearings rarely begin at 9 is almost a minor annoyance in comparison. Sometimes, this is not the justices' fault. Occasional hearings are scheduled for 8 a.m., and sometimes they run late. It is very common, however, for the justices not to arrive until 9:30 or 10, even when they don't have an earlier hearing.

Furthermore, though "half-hour" breaks frequently stretch to an hour or more, all parties must be back in the courtroom after half an hour.

The district courts are better. They at least do not schedule more than one case for a given hour, and judges usually appear on time. But even there, the judges' contempt for other people's time is evident.

A particularly blatant example of this occurred during a session of the Deri trial. The prosecution arrived at 8:30 a.m. and announced that its witness was in the hospital emergency room. The defense arrived and said one of the defendants was home with flu. Both sides asked that the trial be canceled for one day.

The judges, however, refused to agree until a complete medical



report on the state of the witness was available from the emergency-room doctors. Perhaps, they said, the witness would still be able to testify for an hour or two later in the afternoon.

As a result, some 10 people were confined to the court for

more than three hours, waiting for the medical reports. In the end, the results were the same as they would have been if the judges had sent everyone home immediately: The trial was canceled for the day.

THE JUDGES' theory appears to be that their time is much more valuable than anyone else's. Better therefore that an ordinary person wait for four hours than that they be forced to waste 10 minutes.

Given the huge backlog in our court system, judges' time is indeed valuable. However, it would be possible to reduce the waiting time for other people without wasting the judges' time.

The simplest way would be the method doctors use. They schedule patients at intervals, but the intervals are usually not quite long enough. Thus the person with the midday appointment still needs to wait, but for much less time than if he had arrived first thing in the morning.

Similarly, the Supreme Court could stagger cases, using conservative time estimates. If the justices thought the first case, for instance, would take two hours, it could schedule the second case for 10:30 a.m. For those involved with the second case, a half-hour wait would surely be preferable to a two-hour one.

And if something untoward happened, and the first case ended in 15 minutes, the judges could use the time the same way ordinary people do: They could do other work. After all, much of a judge's work involves reading through documents and weighing the arguments and evidence, and that can be done at any time.

Attorneys say the judges are concerned that, with typical Israeli disregard for punctuality, too many attorneys would show up late for their scheduled case, causing unnecessary delay. However, if fines were imposed for no-shows (except under extraordinary circumstances), lawyers would probably quickly learn to come on time.

And it would entail no risk of wasted time at all for the justices to at least begin every session promptly at 9 a.m., unless an earlier case runs late.

The Supreme Court should be an example to all of society. It seems a pity that, in its contempt for other people's time, it has chosen to exemplify one of the worst aspects of Israeli society rather than what is best.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

How equal are the sexes?

JON SIMONS

SEXUAL equality is one of the principles which guided last week's Supreme Court ruling denying Ruti Nahmani her right to motherhood.

The court held that if Ruti were to use her ova, previously fertilized by her estranged husband, in order to have a child by means of surrogate motherhood, that would constitute an imposition of parenthood on him. Just as a woman has a right to choose not to be a mother, and thus a right to abortion, so a man has a right to retract his agreement to parenthood. Moreover, his right takes precedence over her right to be a mother.

There are some feminist reasons to welcome the decision.

First, rights regarding reproduction, and related issues such as abortion, are in the realm of the individual's freedom. These rights, which are a vital line of defense for women's rights in general, might have been undermined by a precedent which imposed parenthood.

Moreover, a decision in favor of Ruti Nahmani might have been justified by a stereotypical gender distinction, according to which it is a woman's nature and destiny to be a mother. Such prejudicial assumptions about the proper function of women continue to underlie much legal discrimination against women. All women are treated as mothers whose primary obligation is in the home.

HOWEVER, the court's decision reflects an artificial neutrality which is blind to the actual differences between the genders.

Such legal gender blindness also stands in the way of sexual equality, because it overlooks the inequalities of obligations and responsibilities entailed by the current division of labor between men and women.

In this case, the court discussed parenthood abstractly - as if motherhood and fatherhood are the same, and thus an equal imposition on both sexes.

In practice, the main burdens fall on women, not only during pregnancy and birth, but also in the child's formative years. In the Nahmani case, conception involved an intrusive and painful procedure for the mother, but not for the father. Neither was the father being asked to assume equal responsibility for care of the child.

Talk of parenthood as an obligation falling evenly on mothers and fathers assumes that real sexual equality has already been achieved.

The decision also reflects another prevailing social perspective which has confined women to the home and family - the assumption that biological and social parenthood are indivisible. According to this perspective, whoever begets a child must also raise her, a duty

The Nahmani decision was a case of legal gender blindness

which falls primarily on mothers. Such beliefs delegitimize other arrangements for child care which enable women to fulfill themselves and take a part in social life other than as mothers.

The distinction between biological and social parenthood, together with recognition of unequal responsibility in practice, might have enabled the court to uphold Ruti Nahmani's right to motherhood without infringing on any of her

ex-partner's absolute rights.

Biological parenthood does not in itself entail the major obligations of parenthood, which consist in many hours of child care each day and night. Even a financial obligation to the child does not qualify as half the duty of a parent in the social sense.

Moreover, use of the above distinctions could avert the danger of infringement of women's right to abortions. Becoming a father by name and perhaps by checkbook is not an equivalent imposition to months of pregnancy, giving birth and years of care for an unwanted child.

Courts are supposed to uphold equal rights without respect to gender.

However, when the law functions as if men and women are already equal in practice, sharing equal obligations as well as rights, it conceals the existing inequality of circumstances between the sexes.

If the Supreme Court wishes to uphold the principle of sexual equality, it would have to intervene in family life far more than liberal principles of nonintervention allow. It would have to turn fatherhood from a legal status into equal responsibility for child care.

The writer teaches political science at the Hebrew University.

Theophanes of spring are very pleasant...

...but they bear the pollen of the spring flowers. If you suffer from breathing problems, at this season, hay fever, sneezing, nasal and throat congestion, you are probably allergic to this pollen.

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Details, information on the areas of priority, conditions applying to submissions, and budgetary details can be obtained from the research authorities of research institutes, and the Ministry of Science.

Proposals should be submitted in 15 copies, on the forms available for this purpose, by June 15, 1995.

The Ministry of Science will appoint a committee of experts for each of the areas of microelectronics and advanced materials.

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- * Si - Processes and Devices
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Technical information can be obtained from:
Advanced Materials: Dr. Avraham Cohen,
Director, Exact Sciences Division,
Tel. 02-825183.

Microelectronics: Yossi van Zoharan,
Director, Physics Research Division,
Tel. 02-847095.

Information on Administrative and Financial Matters:
Mr. Avi Anati, Director,
Research Funds Division, Ministry of Science,
Tel. 02-847057.
E-mail: AVI@ILNCRD.BITNET

Filipino gunmen grab hostages as gov't forces close in

IPIL (AP) - Filipino commandos yesterday cornered some of the Moslem gunmen who ransacked this southern town, and hundreds of terrified civilians were reported fleeing fierce fighting in rugged jungle mountains west of Ipil.

The military went on full alert yesterday throughout western areas of Mindanao Island in case of further attacks by the Abu Sayyaf group, blamed for Tuesday's raid on this predominantly Christian town, in which at least 52 people were killed.

The shadowy extremist group also has been linked to defendants in the World Trade Center bombing, plots to assassinate Pope John Paul II and threats against American airlines.

Officials said Abu Sayyaf gunmen were looting farms and seizing civilians as "human shields" as they fled this town of 50,000 people, about 760 km south of Manila.

Col. Roberto Santiago said yesterday's fighting broke out when about 100 elite Scout Rangers laid siege to a school compound in the mining village of Santo Rosario, about 20 km west of Ipil.

About 40 Abu Sayyaf gunmen were believed holed up in the compound, possibly with hostages. Santiago described the fighting as fierce. Manila television station GMA reported 11 civilians were killed yesterday, but the report could not be confirmed.

A helicopter carrying Interior Secretary Rafael Alunan and the chief of the national police was fired yesterday as it flew over the fighting. There were no casualties, and the helicopter crew returned fire.

"The terrorists are pillaging villages for food and animals to carry their equipment," Sister Juliet Mateo, a Roman Catholic nun, said. Romeo Billote, mayor of a town near the fighting, said 13 hostages had been seized in Santo Rosario, some as guides for the fleeing rebels.

President Fidel Ramos, a former military chief of staff and defense minister, fired the military's southern regional commander and the chief of an infantry brigade for failing to prevent Tuesday's raid.

About 200 gunmen, who wore military fatigues, entered Ipil aboard boats and three commandeered buses, passing unchallenged through checkpoints.

Elsewhere, police and soldiers set up roadblocks throughout western Mindanao, one of the country's most lawless regions. Mindanao is the traditional homeland of the 6 million-strong Moslem community. Most of the 66 million Filipinos are Catholic.

In Zamboanga, the region's largest city, mobile police patrols were stopping and searching vehicles at random. The city's police chief canceled all leaves and placed the city on full alert.

Two days after the bloody raid, the motive remained unclear. Police offered various theories, ranging from an attempt to free a jailed relative of one of the leaders to reprisals for the arrest last week-end in Manila of six alleged Moslem extremists.

Police claim the Abu Sayyaf group provided help to Ramzi Yousef, alleged mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, while he was hiding in Manila earlier this year.

US and Philippine officials say Yousef eluded arrest during a police raid on his Manila apartment Jan. 6. Police found bomb-making materials and evidence of a plot to blow up American jetliners and kill Pope John Paul II during his visit to Manila in January.



Spanish fishermen from the northwestern province of Galicia demonstrate outside the Canadian Embassy in Madrid to protest Canada's attacks on Spanish fishing vessels in the North Atlantic off Newfoundland. (Reuters)

Burundian refugees reportedly killed after sanctuary refused in Tanzania

HUNDREDS of Burundians seeking sanctuary in Tanzania were pushed back over the border, and three were reportedly killed by their own army, UN officials said yesterday.

Officials of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said Tanzanian soldiers chased about 300 Burundians over the border Tuesday as they tried to flee ethnic violence.

The incident was caused by a communications mix-up, according to UNHCR spokeswoman Ruth Marshall in Geneva.

She said the agency's field officers discovered Tanzanian troops had rounded up 1,500 people at a Tanzanian transit center Tuesday and were planning to send them back to Burundi.

"These people had arrived before the closing of the border and had permission to stay," Marshall said. "But there was a communications problem. We tried to intervene but the operation continued despite our protests."

Most of the refugees panicked and fled in the chaos, she said, but about 300 elderly, children and pregnant women, less able to flee, were forced back over the border by the soldiers.

UNHCR field officers in Burundi found three families an hour later in the hands of Burundi soldiers and managed to obtain their release.

The families said three people had already

News agencies
BUJUMBURA

been slaughtered by soldiers.

"Our field officers in Burundi combed the border area ... but were not able to find any trace of the people killed nor of the other people sent back to Burundi," Marshall added.

Tanzania already has an estimated 670,000 refugees - about 90,000 Burundians and 580,000 Rwandans - who have fled fighting between ethnic Hutus and Tutsis in the two countries.

Tanzania closed its border a week ago to halt an estimated 50,000 Rwandan Hutus who rushed out of refugee camps in north-central Burundi. Some have returned to their camps but about 25,000 stopped halfway to Tanzania and are sitting in an open field 25 miles east of the Tanzanian border.

The UN refugee agency has repeatedly asked that the border be reopened, but Tanzanian officials have said they cannot cope with any more refugees.

Burundi yesterday prayed for peace, a year after the twin assassinations of Burundi's and Rwanda's presidents unleashed genocide across neighboring Rwanda.

Burundi's army meanwhile displayed weap-

ons it said it captured from Hutu gunmen in fighting in the capital last week and said it was confident of winning the war with guerrillas.

President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya led hundreds of mourners including his government, diplomats and military chiefs, in prayers at Bujumbura's cathedral for his predecessor, Cyprien Ntaryamira, who was killed a year ago in Rwanda's capital.

A still mysterious rocket attack downed a Rwandan plane carrying Ntaryamira and Rwanda's president Juvenal Habyarimana to Kigali as returned from peace talks in Tanzania.

Within minutes of the crash, Hutu troops took to the streets of Kigali and the genocide began. Up to an estimated one million members of the Tutsi minority tribe and Hutu moderates were butchered by Hutu troops and militiamen before a rebel victory in July.

Rwanda's president, also a Hutu, did not speak during the memorial mass at the half-empty cathedral of Regina Mundi, guarded by troops. He remained silent when he, Ntaryamira's widow and the Tutsi prime minister laid wreaths on the former president's grave.

Diplomats say Ntibantunganya is largely a figurehead but his presence is essential to maintaining peace. They doubt the Tutsi-dominated military would stage a coup as such a step would trigger mass bloodshed.

Japanese police consider subway murder charges

TOKYO (AP) - Police for the first time yesterday were considering murder charges against members of a doomsday cult for a nerve gas attack on Tokyo's subways, a newspaper said.

Police already have been hunting for a group of 30 scientists in the cult on suspicion of preparing sarin, the nerve gas used in the subway attack.

But police may upgrade the charge from "preparing for murder" - a general charge that doesn't refer to specific victims - to homicide in the 11 deaths on the subway, the newspaper *Asahi* reported.

Punishment for homicide can be execution or a life sentence. "Preparing for murder" carries a maximum of two years and can be used if authorities can prove the group made sarin, even if they can't prove it was used to kill.

Police further built their mount-

ing case against the cult by arresting three members yesterday after finding metal pipes believed to be pistons parts in their car.

News reports say police already have determined that the group has studied nuclear and biological weapons production; has acquired chemicals used in explosives; was studying abduction techniques once used by the KGB; and - perhaps most ominously - had the materials and expertise to make tons of sarin, the nerve gas used in the subway gas attack.

At least 24 sect members have been arrested on various charges, including kidnapping and trespassing, but none on charges directly relating to the March 20 subway attack, reports say.

No one has been charged in the attack, which also sickened more than 5,500 people and terrified a nation used to thinking of itself as secure.

Simpson defense gets admission gloves may have been tainted

LOS ANGELES (AP) - It was no secret that O.J. Simpson's lawyers were going to make a big deal about the blanket tossed over Nicole Brown Simpson's body, the rookie criminalist and the crime-scene glove that got moved.

Yet when those issues were raised during a precise cross-examination of criminalist Dennis Fung, it all seemed so fresh, and so terribly damaging. All of a sudden, the defense was exposing cracks in the strongest part of the prosecution's case - the physical evidence.

Testimony was canceled yesterday because two jurors were sick. A court spokeswoman said the judge could use the court day to consider motions from attorneys.

By the end of Wednesday's court session, the defense had Fung, a prosecution witness, second-guessing his own decisions

and those of top police investigators.

Defense attorney Barry Scheck got Fung to acknowledge that two bloody leather gloves - one found at the murder scene and one at Simpson's estate - might have been contaminated before they were tested. Prosecutors say the glove found on Simpson's estate contains a mixture of blood from Simpson and the victims.

The defense wrapped up the court session by trying to show jurors a videotape of what it said was the murder-scene glove resting on a corner of the bloody blanket that covered Ms. Simpson's body. The defense said the glove had been moved from a spot under a bush.

Prosecutors objected and asked for time to analyze the tape. Superior Court Judge Lance Ito was to rule on the request yesterday. Fung also was to return to the stand yesterday.

Two die in Sarajevo shelling attack

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Two people were killed and several others wounded yesterday when a Sarajevo suburb came under shelling attack, hospital staff and Bosnian state radio reported.

A doctor at a hospital in the government-held suburb of Hrasnica said the shelling, which began after midday, was still under way.

UN officers could not immediately confirm the attack, which the Moslem-led government's radio blamed on Serb forces besieging the city.

The same suburb came under Serb mortar fire on Wednesday after a firefight between Serbs and government troops. The Serbs lobbed 13 mortar bombs at government positions but no casualties were reported, the United Nations said.

Bosnia's ceasefire has suffered serious setbacks in recent weeks after the Bosnian army launched a two-pronged offensive in the north and center of the country. Serb forces have retaliated with occasional shelling attacks on civilian targets.

Yesterday marked 50 years since Josip Broz Tito's troops liberated Sarajevo from German occupation, but the city hardly stopped brooding over its current war to commemorate that earlier triumph.

"I remember when we entered Sarajevo on April 6th, 1945," said Ando Memisevic, 72, who fought with Tito's partisan army.

"Not a single person in the city stayed home. We danced and drank and sang in the streets for days. I hope for the day when our Bosnian army will liberate this country, but I doubt Tito's glorious times will ever return."

Memisevic spoke after a modest ceremony for partisan veterans on Titova street in the centre

of the Bosnian capital. About 100 mostly elderly people attended the event as Bosnian army soldiers tramped by, intent on their own battle against separatist Bosnian Serbs who surround the city.

Sarajevo's leading daily newspaper, *Oslobodjenje*, only mentioned the 50th anniversary in a small story buried on an inside page. But private recollections of the 1945 liberation were many.

Mirjana was a 13-year-old when partisan fighters began slipping into her Sarajevo neighborhood under cover of darkness on the night of April 5th.

"They were sneaking into the city and it was a time of confusion with lots of shooting and explosions...My dog ran away because of the noise and I never saw him again," she said.

Mirjana remembers hours of heavy fighting around the city's post office and residents hauling sacks of flour home from looted German warehouses.

"In the morning it was quiet and we all knew who had won," she said. "Final victory over the Germans didn't come until May 9th, but the war was over for Sarajevo shooting-wise. We slept soundly at night from April 6th even though everyone was hungry for a long time."

Consolidating his military victory, Tito used force and strength of personality to subdue feuds among Moslems, Croats, Serbs, Jews and gypsies and weld them together into the post-war Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

"Tito embraced all nations (ethnic groups) but we're the witnesses to how firm he was," said Mirjana.

"Everyone was grateful and just wanted the war to end. My mother used to say she'd let the gypsies run the country so long as the shooting stopped."

House Democrats refuse compromise on spending cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) - Undercutting their party leader, Senate Democrats refused yesterday to accept a tentative compromise with majority Republicans on a stalled \$16 billion package of domestic program cuts.

Following a closed-door session of Democratic senators, Minority Leader Tom Daschle emerged to say that some of his colleagues balked on a deal he had reached early yesterday with Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole.

Under the would-be agreement, Democrats would have shielded social programs from some cuts, while the deficit-conscious Republicans would have gained even deeper reductions in other programs.

"There's a lot of concern," Daschle told reporters about Democrats' feelings. "It's fair to say our caucus is divided about the approach we should take now."

The Democratic dissension left the fate of the spending reduc-

tions uncertain. Daschle and Dole, with the support of the Clinton administration, had hoped the Senate would complete the legislation yesterday and send it to House-Senate negotiators.

Some liberal Democrats said they were unhappy with the agreement because it still left deep cuts in social programs that the party has long protected.

"It's policy, its principle, its a question of what you stand for," said Sen. Frank Lautenberg.

To make the measure more attractive to Clinton, Republicans attached to it \$275 million in debt relief for Jordan. The administration promised to help the Middle Eastern nation last year after it signed a peace treaty with Israel.

As a further inducement to Democrats, Republicans would lay aside an amendment by Sen. Alfonse D'Amato that would have scuttled the administration's \$20 billion bailout of the ailing Mexican peso.

Conservatives face Scottish debacle

EDINBURGH (Reuters) - Britain's Conservatives are expected to suffer a humiliating reverse at Scottish council elections yesterday, the first of a series of local polls set to weaken Prime Minister John Major's grip on power.

The ruling party will be lucky to win even 10 percent of the 1,161 seats being contested on 29 new councils covering the whole of mainland Scotland, according to opinion polls.

The results look like being a triumph for the opposition Labor Party, traditionally strong in Scotland, and for the independence-seeking Scottish Nationalists, who are close to establishing themselves as Scotland's second political party.

Polls giving the Conservatives just 11 percent backing in Scotland indicate they are likely to end up with control of just one Scottish local authority - East Renfrewshire with just two percent of the population.

BLAST

(Continued from page 2)

The Hamas claim and the police response left little room for reaching an understanding that collaborators were in some way responsible. Such claims helped to defuse tension after previous confrontations between Hamas and the police, such as the shootings that left 14 dead outside the Gaza City's Palestine Mosque on November 18.

The Hamas leaflet called the Palestinian Police "guards of the Jews," because of their claim that at least three Hamas-bombers were responsible for their own deaths in the explosion. The blast also killed at least three others, including the young boy alleged by Hamas to have been duped by an Israeli or a collaborator.

Mahmoud Zahar, a Hamas spokesman, said the police are worse than Israelis. He complained that the police had refused to allow family members to attend the burials of the dead on Monday, saying "even the Israelis allow 10 family members to attend burials."

A Gaza journalist, Taher Nunu, who said in the daily *Al-Nahar* that civil defense guards told him a time bomb had been set, was detained

yesterday for passing disinformation.

Palestinian Authority Attorney-General Khaled Kidre said that Nunu, a student in the Islamic University journalism department, was being investigated to see if he reported what he had been told in good faith or had purposely distorted what he had been told to serve Hamas propaganda purposes.

Al-Nahar, banned for a month last year for being pro-Jordan, called for his release, but there was no statement by the Fatah-run Arab Journalists' Association.

The senior officer in Gen. Nasser Yusef's office denied there is any doubt about how the explosion occurred. Deputy civil defense chief Gen. Musa Abu Marzuk, "who is the highest authority on these matters," said the explosion was caused by a bomb they were handling, the officer said.

He said he could not confirm that there have been any arrests.

A senior Israeli military source said yesterday that Israel had arrested 2,600 Islamic activists since the Tel Aviv bus bombing on October 19, 1,000 of them since the Beit Lid bombing on January 22.

AMBASSADORS

(Continued from Page 1)

that "building peace with Israel will be affected by what happens in the Palestinian track."

"If peace is to be permanent and comprehensive, the citizen of Jordan must feel that the Palestinian track is going in the right direction, and that the Arab-Israeli conflict is being tackled in an appropriate manner," he said.

"Short of that, it is difficult to perceive a peace that develops from being on the official level to being on the popular level," he added.

Shamir crossed into Jordan at the Allenby Bridge. But Jordan does not recognize that bridge as an official entry point, saying it is still occupied territory. Muasher, therefore, crossed into Israel at the Sheikh Hussein Bridge near Beit She'an.

Though Jordanian officials were reportedly annoyed at the decision to have Shamir cross at the Allenby Bridge, Shamir dismissed the complaint.

"There is no problem with the bridge. All diplomats use it. This is the normal procedure for crossing for official missions," he said.

HISTADRUT

(Continued from Page 1)

of the Histadrut, and Histadrut legal adviser Yaron Kaidar. Fishman also met briefly with Avital and Kaidar at Avital Histadrut office in Tel Aviv.

"What is at issue is the wrongdoing of several individuals," Avital said, after meeting Fishman. "The problem is not with the entire framework of the Histadrut."

The investigation, which police say began in secret over a year ago, centers on the misuse of Histadrut funds by Labor members in the 1992 party Knesset primary and last year's Histadrut election.

The portable phones and phone bills of dozens of workers in Haberfeld's Histadrut campaign were paid for by the labor federation, at a cost of tens of thousands of shekels, sources said the documents showed.

Kessar, Haberfeld, Lubelsky, and Yehzekel used Histadrut funds to cover such campaign expenses as posters and rallies, the sources said.

Kessar and Yehzekel also used the facilities of the Histadrut's old age home network, Mishan,

for several of their campaign gatherings and charged the expense to the Histadrut, the sources added.

The suspects allegedly tried to cover up their use of Histadrut funds by spreading out the expenses in several labor federation departments.

Kessar, Haberfeld, Lubelsky, and Yehzekel have all denied they misused Histadrut funds.

Meanwhile, Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz cautioned that the investigation is still far from complete.

"The cooperation we have had from those questioned has helped advance the investigation," Hefetz said. "But this is a complicated case."

Hefetz's remarks seemed to imply that former Histadrut treasurer Artur Yisraelovich, arrested Sunday after giving investigators difficulties, has begun cooperating.

Yisraelovich, who police called "the inventor, initiator, and organizer of the method used to embezzle Histadrut funds," is expected to be released on bail today.

NPT

(Continued from Page 1)

Wednesday, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak appeared to soften Cairo's earlier insistence that Israel must sign the pact for it to agree to its renewal. However, Mubarak denied any shift in Cairo's stance.

Asked if the situation had changed, he replied: "No, it has not." Egypt's position "is based on a particular nuclear situation in the region and we must make things move," Mubarak said.

"Our talks were very important. I will transmit my report to President Mubarak today or tomorrow. The road is long," he said.

Mubarak said after talks with President Bill Clinton in Washington on Wednesday: "We are not asking them (Israel) to join the NPT now or tomorrow. I hope with the help of the United States we could narrow the gap, complete something concerning this issue."

Moussa and Peres met for over an hour yesterday evening at the Hotel Bristol in central Paris, venue of secret talks that finalized an Israeli-Palestinian peace accord in 1993.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New wave of Yemenite immigration

A new wave of Yemenite Jewish immigration to Israel is underway following last year's civil war, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Four families, comprising a total of 14 men, women and children, left Wednesday for Israel via Arab and European countries, said the sources.

They said similar groups have been leaving periodically in recent months and estimated that 5,000 Jews remain.

The sources indicated the exodus was spurred by the two-month civil war between armies of the former North and South Yemen.

AP

1995 The Jerusalem Post
in Sarajevo
ing attack

NEWS IN FOCUS

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1995

Real-life battles blunt David Levy's lance

Binyamin Netanyahu is ignoring Levy's threats to leave the Likud, but some party members wish he would go, Sarah Honig writes



LEVY'S VOTE-GETTING reputation suffered a shattering blow when he lost the primary. The thinking around Netanyahu is that, whatever a possible Levy list slices away from the Likud, it will be more than compensated for by voters returning from a variety of rightist splinters which in 1992 failed to cross the Knesset's entry threshold. Further dulling Levy's lances are immigrants from the former USSR, who in this campaign are expected to massively back the Likud.

With Levy's ability to hold the Likud to ransom seemingly not what it was, some in Netanyahu's camp make no effort to conceal their wish that Levy will "finally" make good his threats and walk out, ridding the Likud of his backstabbing once and for all. If he costs us three or four Knesset seats, it will be an affordable price well worth paying," argued one MK this week. "After the elections Netanyahu can anyway negotiate a coalition agreement with Levy when Levy is, hopefully, outside the Likud."

Others in the Likud, however, fear that Levy will not let the party off the hook so easily. "The lessons of breakaway lists, from Ben-Gurion's to Yitzhak Moda'i's, cannot possibly be lost on so shrewd a political player as Levy," sighs a Likud higher-up who claims to have Netanyahu's ear. "Levy will stay and vindictively bleed us. It's foolhardy to assume that this will not hurt us in the next elections and not aid the left. The race may be too close for comfort. Even if the Likud has changed, Levy can cause enough of an upset by reminding the electorate of the Likud's bad old days."

Such fears, says Levy crony and Dimona Mayor Gabi Lelouch, "are what Levy counts on. Netanyahu may be playing tough now, but he won't dare find out if Levy can cut him down." Whether or not Levy is rattling sabers, his gambit is that Netanyahu will flinch from danger and compromise, rather than risk calling Levy's bluff and test his actual ability to rip through the Likud's flesh.

BEFORE Likud MK David Levy bused a thousand supporters to Tel Aviv's Park Hotel this week, one of his lieutenants gleefully said Levy was "polishing the sword and honing the spear with which he'll mercilessly pierce [Likud chairman Binyamin] Netanyahu."

But after what was to have been an awesome display of political might, a former Levy loyalist said: "Levy whetted the end of nothing to a very sharp point."

"Levy no longer possesses the deadly weaponry he once so frighteningly brandished against the Likud leadership. All that Levy can do now is make menacing noises about slashing his adversaries if they don't meet his demands. But if the Likud leadership keeps its nerve, it will discover that this time around Levy's hands are empty."

"Levy is desperately fighting an old war in a new, very changed battlefield," added the politician who was allied with Levy for years. "The bravado and intimidation were only to be expected."

What else can Levy do but look daggers at Netanyahu, threaten to split the Likud and field a new ticket? His hope is that Netanyahu will be so wary of bad press that he will cave in.

Indeed, throughout the Likud, and even grudgingly inside Levy's own faction, the consensus is that the Likud is not the

same party it was when Levy contributed crucially to its defeat in the 1992 elections. His sulks and fits of fury helped turn the public from what was increasingly perceived as a strife-torn party with bickering Byzantine factions.

In the 1993 leadership primary, in which Levy was handily defeated by Netanyahu, the Likud's membership - the largest of any party - voted in nationwide elections, which made factional deals impossible. Netanyahu then proceeded to overhaul the Likud's internal structure with an eye to preventing future factional machinations and mischief, much to Levy's chagrin.

Given the new party rules and the solid majority Netanyahu enjoys, he appears to be shielded from Levy's thrusts.

CURIOSLY, LEVY's demands appear to bolster Netanyahu's position, as is evident from the fact that even MK Benny Begin - also a candidate for Likud leadership in 1993 - has come out forcefully against Levy.

Not long ago, Begin stuck out his political neck to defend Levy. But now, in a caustic tongue-in-cheek letter to Netanyahu, Begin said that by virtue of his having come in third in the primary race, "I demand to be appointed deputy

to the acting party chairman and to get 7.5 slots for my supporters on the next slate of Likud Knesset candidates."

Begin parodied Levy's threat to bolt the Likud if he is not officially crowned the party's No. 2 and have a third of its Knesset list reserved for his people because he garnered 26% of the vote in 1993. This Levy wants done by handicapping the primary system in a manner offering him maximum advantage.

So far, Netanyahu has refused to consider or even comment on Levy's ultimatum, in order to minimize Levy's warnings of "a decision after Pessah."

No one in the Likud is willing to guess just when after Pessah Levy plans to make his move. The assumption is that the deadline will come only when the party central committee is convened to approve whatever primary system is picked by the secretariat; since 1993 Levy has consistently boycotted the secretariat's deliberations, along with those of all Likud forums.

Netanyahu's control of the committee is such that Levy cannot wrest the leadership from him. Moreover, the next elections for the premiership will be direct and independent of how the parties do in the Knesset

vote. This, argue some close to Netanyahu, minimizes the amount of damage Levy can inflict.

Moreover, his ability to carve into the Likud's share of the vote is also limited by the fact that with the Likud out of power he is not hindering an incumbent government's functioning or tarnishing its image.

In the opposition, the Likud is assumed to be less vulnerable, especially as long as the polls continue to smile on Netanyahu. At the same time, with Labor being battered by turbulent waters, the Likud is likely to remain a safe harbor for disaffected voters.

"An Irishman Looks at Israel"
TOM O'DWYER
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Resentment rises in the 'prison'

Unemployment and anger over the closure are creating an explosive mix in Gaza, Steve Rodan reports

IN the Jabalya refugee camp, about a dozen men sit barefoot on a rug in the living room of a one-story building to discuss unemployment.

Kamel recalls that three of his sons worked in Israel. Now, they are looking for jobs. Some of them earn NIS 300 a month for part-time work on road projects financed by the Western donor nations, about a seventh of what they had earned in Israel.

A lanky laborer in his late 50s, Kamel, who like the others agreed to speak as long as he was not fully identified, does not disguise his anger.

"I am ready to blow myself up just to change the situation," he says, referring to the Islamic suicide bombers who carried out several bloody terrorist attacks over the past year. "Maybe then somebody will start paying attention to us."

This is the voice of the unemployed, who, according to Western and Palestinian Authority figures, now top 50 percent of the labor force. The loss of Israeli salaries has been the chief cause of the 25 percent to 50 percent decline in per-capita income in Gaza since the PA was established in May 1994. Today, PA officials regard the jobless as a pool of potential unrest, ready to be manipulated by the Islamic opposition.

PA officials saw evidence of this unrest in the demonstration by thousands protesting what they claimed was the Israeli assassination of leading Hamas fugitives, who were killed in a bomb explosion in an apartment in Sheikh Radwan, near Jabalya, this week. A top Fatah official close to the PA says he's convinced the protesters' real target was the PA rather than Israel.

"The PA controls the police," the Fatah official says, "but Hamas is now controlling the streets."

Many of the unemployed once had jobs in Israel. Today, fewer than 20,000 Gazans have permits to work in Israel, which has now become a privilege. Palestinian laborers save their expired permits. This writer has seen them trying to use the outdated slips to get past Israeli checkpoints around Gaza in an attempt to reach their old jobs in either Israel or Judea and Samaria.

As most Palestinians see it, Gaza these days resembles a prison. PA Information Minister Yasser Abed-Rabbo, who spent most of the last decade in Tunis, calls it a cage.

"The first word in Hebrew that I learned since I came back was *mahsom*," says Abed-Rabbo, referring to the word for roadblock. "These days, we are facing the most terrible situation, which our people didn't face in the worst days of occupation or the worst days of the intifada: the closure."

The mood in Jabalya contrasts with that which greets the visitor



Workers in Jabalya: Since the PA took over Gaza, per-capita income has declined. (D. Rubinger)

to Gaza. These days, a ride down the Gaza highway seems to promise a trip toward good times ahead. There are signs of construction everywhere. Clusters of high-rise buildings stand on the sand dunes around Gaza City and Deir el-Balah. Concrete pillars protrude from the roofs of existing houses, as families build additional rooms.

Road projects are under way in virtually every Gaza town, although Palestinians say the closure is affecting the importation of material. The main streets of Gaza are being torn up to install sewage, as sidewalks are lined with young saplings.

"We're seeing the light at the end of the tunnel," says Norwegian State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Jan Egeland, who is overseeing development in Gaza and arrived last week for a brief visit.

LATE-MODEL cars whiz around the Strip. Some bear the new PA license plate, with the Arabic letter *fa* appearing to the right of the license number. Most vehicles still carry an Israeli license plate with the Hebrew *ayin* for Gaza.

"The arrival of thousands of people from the Arab countries has brought in some changes," a PA official says. "These people have brought or brought in new cars and have built, bought or rented homes, all of which have contributed to the Palestinian economy."

This group includes the Palestine Liberation Army troops, all of whom are now employed as police officers. It also includes PLO bureaucrats, who now man senior posts in the PA.

An aide to a senior official in the PA boasts of his boss's new Mercedes: "This cost at least \$50,000. You won't find anything better in Gaza."

But off the Gaza highway, most of the roads are unpaved and flooded after recent storms. Several times a day, the streets are filled with children walking to and from school, which have

morning and afternoon shifts.

In Jabalya, there are few adults about. Many of them are home or in the mosque or in the pool hall or on the soccer field.

Adel is a taxi driver who talks of the good old days of Israeli occupation, when he earned his living shuttling Gaza laborers to Tel Aviv. Today, both he and his aging Mercedes are shut out of Israel. His vehicle now stands idle.

Some, like Adel, live on their savings and benefit from the support system of a large family. Others, like Imad, find their families to be a financial burden. Imad lives with his parents, his siblings and some of their children, 16 people all told, and he is now the only one with a full-time job.

Last year, Imad says, he earned NIS 700 a month as a surveyor for Israel's Civil Administration. Today, he works in the same office, but for the PA. The salary has been increased to NIS 900.

"It's enough money for one person, but not for a family," says Imad.

Unemployment and underemployment have meant adjustments—the jobless men say their meals consist largely of hummus and vegetable salads, composed of staples such as tomatoes, which now cost as little as 20 agrot a kilo.

Meat is seldom served more than once a month. Fish caught off the Gaza coast comprise an occasional substitute.

CHARITY is more widely received than given. During the recent Muslim holiday of Id al-Fitr, the PLO Fatah faction gave the families of those killed by Israeli troops during the intifada the equivalent of \$200. Families of inmates in Israeli jails received \$100. Those who could prove special hardship were granted \$50.

Members of Hamas have also been making the rounds. During the Muslim festival, they distrib-

uted sugar, milk, meat and candies to all the families in Jabalya, which as late as last year was regarded as solidly pro-Fatah. Political activists now say Hamas is the second largest movement in the camp; Fatah is still the leading force.

But they add that Hamas pinpoints its targets. Some neighborhoods of Jabalya are given attention; local activists were sent letters urging them to join Hamas and benefit from the organization's largesse.

In Sheikh Radwan, the focus of years of Israeli efforts to resettle refugees, the Islamic movement has found fertile ground. Another successful campaign was conducted at the Islamic University in Gaza City.

For Hamas and other opposition elements, the closure has heightened the doubts of many Gazans about the effectiveness of the PA. They have become resentful of the new moneyed class in Gaza, which they suspect is getting rich off the Western aid meant for them.

Bassam is a sergeant in the PA police. He owes his job to his role as an intifada organizer in Jabalya. Today, he is amazed that virtually none of the senior officers are local residents. In his department, the commander and his deputy are new arrivals to a place and field in which, he says, they have no experience.

"We fought in the intifada," Bassam says. "We went to jail while they were in Arab capitals making good money. We should be given preference."

Some of the Palestinian unemployed warn that the rising resentment might soon explode. They predict a new uprising—this time against the PA leadership—unless they share in the wealth they see arriving in Gaza.

In this war, they add, the Jews—their term when referring to Israel—would be just as much a target.

"As we see it," says one Palestinian, "the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer."

Fund-raising's version of the great divide

One US federation has taken a giant step by moving its money across the Green Line, Herb Keinon reports

THE Jewish Federation of Middlesex, New Jersey, took the US Jewish philanthropic community into uncharted waters last month with a \$22,000 gift to a fund supporting settlements in the territories.

Up to now, money raised in the US by the federations and sent here stopped at the Green Line.

The Jewish Agency, the prime benefactor of federation-raised money that is channeled to this country, does not fund programs or projects in the settlements.

The reason for this, said Danny Allen, assistant executive vice chairman of the United Israel Appeal, is that funding programs beyond the Green Line was never in the UIA's charter for getting tax-exempt status from the US government. This charter was updated in 1966 and has not been changed since.

The UIA is the US organization that allocates federation-raised money to this country.

Unlike the Jewish Agency, the World Zionist Organization's Rural Settlements Department, which does spend money in the settlements, is funded by the Israeli government.

"We at the UIA live in a particular environment in the US and are part of its political life," Allen said in a telephone interview from New York. "It is in the opinion of our board that we don't want to jeopardize the system. Our purpose is to support projects within Israel [inside the Green Line]. That is our agreement with the US government, and we see no reason to change it."

Allen said that the Jewish Agency is having trouble supporting existing programs, and there is no reason to expand its activities beyond the Green Line.

A SENIOR Jewish Agency official in Jerusalem, who declined to be identified, said the UIA's policy is simply a matter of not wanting to rock the boat. The official said that UIA funding of projects in the settlements could endanger grants from the US government, which totaled \$80 million over the past four years. He said funding projects in the settlements would also alienate some of the federations' big contributors.

The major Jewish organizations don't want the policy to change because they deal with the US administration and don't want to see that relationship jeopardized by funding settlements, the official said. "Bringing the issue up with the US gov-

ernment would open up a Pandora's box that we feel would better be left closed."

Yecheiel Leiter, head of the Yesha Heartland/One Israel Fund, said his organization raised between \$2.5 million and \$3 million last year from abroad. The vast majority was given by nonfederation US donors for projects in the settlements.

Leiter said the Pandora's box must be opened because it is simply wrong for Jews to boycott Jews living in the territories.

"It is inconceivable that Jewish funds in the Jewish Agency don't go to Jews living in Judea," Leiter said. He said the Jewish Agency's policy discriminates between Jews, choosing residents of Kfar Sava over those living 10 minutes away in Alfei Menashe.

According to Leiter, programs for disadvantaged youths in Dolev or for Ethiopian girls in Kedumim and Ofra—projects which he said the Jewish Agency would fund if they were in Tel Aviv—don't get that money simply because of their locations.

Leiter said Middlesex is not the only federation that has earmarked money for the settlements. He said the One Israel Fund has received money from five other US federations, which he refused to name. "I don't want a situation where certain politicians will publicly attack the federations," he said, but added that the total is in the "tens of thousands of dollars."

ALTHOUGH THE money the federations are giving the One Israel Fund or the competing [see box] Israel Community Development Foundation (ICDF) amounts to only a tiny fraction of the more than \$200 million that the UIA allocates to Israel annually, UIA and agency officials are concerned that if donors earmark

their contributions, it could endanger the existing fund-raising apparatus.

Allen said the danger of federations designating funds for pet projects is that each federation will adopt a different project, and there will be no consensus.

"If one group can do this, then so can another; and if that group can do it, another one can earmark a project as well. This leads to a breakdown of the community consensus so important to the entire system," he said.

Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration and Absorption Department, said the result would be a failure to set national priorities. Popular projects would be funded, and less popular but equally important ones would be forgotten, he said.

Agency officials argue that the designation of the money needed for the absorption of some 80,000 Jews annually—last year's rate—needs to be under its control and not dependent on the whims of one federation.

Allen sharply denied that the UIA is boycotting the territories or settlers.

"There is no boycott," he said.

"The residents of the settlements can avail themselves of any of the projects inside the Green Line—of the Youth Aliya schools, of the immigrant hot line. What boycott or discrimination are they talking about? If we don't spend money in the Negev, are we boycotting the Negev?"

The real issue, said Allen and other UIA and Jewish Agency officials, is that the settlement representatives are seeking to gain political capital.

"This is a political argument," Allen said.

"What they want is for the [US] Jewish philanthropic community to put its imprimatur on their political legitimacy. But that is not our job; it is not our issue. They are trying to further their political agenda on our backs. Our issues are immigration, absorption and the partnership of the world Jewish community with the people of Israel."

But, Leiter said, the policy ignores a significant segment of Jews here, and by so doing is making a thunderous political statement.

"By distinguishing between sides of the Green Line, they are the ones making a political statement, not us," Leiter said. "We are not asking them for a statement that the settlements should be annexed to Israel. We are just asking for parity."

Middlesex group says it will go where agency fears to tread

It is absurd not to help some of the Jews in Israel because of where they live, Michael Shapiro, executive director of the Middlesex Federation, said this week, defending its decision to allocate funds to the settlements.

"I am not against the Jewish Agency for Israel. They do a lot of good work, in one area," Shapiro said. "They don't do a lot of good work in this area, so we'll help here, too."

Middlesex is proud of what it has done, Shapiro said, and he challenged other federations' resistance to change. "Because they've never done it, they don't think they should. That's not a way to grow."

About 40 percent of the money raised by the American federations is turned over to the United

Jewish Appeal and its companion agency, the United Israel Appeal, to be used inside the Green Line.

There are 181 federations in the US. According to published reports, their allocations to Israel in 1994 dropped from \$230 million to \$201 million because they needed to retain a greater share for local programs in the US Jewish communities.

The Internal Revenue Service, the US tax-collecting agency, has long been generally understood as the rationale for the UIA's policy not to allocate funds beyond the Green Line. The argument has traditionally been that giving to the settlements could threaten the tax-exempt status on contributions to the UIA, and as a result discourage peo-

ple from donating to the federations.

As recently as on its February telethons, the New Jersey federation serving Bergen and Hudson counties advised fund-raisers who were questioned about why the UIA doesn't financially support the settlements to answer: "The leadership of UIA has determined not to give funds over the Green Line because such a move could cause the IRS to re-evaluate UIA's tax-exempt status."

Shapiro disagreed. "We had heard the IRS thing for years. We never questioned it," he said. "That's a facade; it's not true. Once [we decided that] there was no legal reason as to why we could not do this, we saw no reason not to help." *Marilyn Henry*

Areas groups can't agree how to divide the wealth

LARGE-scale fund-raising campaigns for settlements in the territories began in earnest in 1990 with the creation of the Israel Community Development Foundation.

The fund was set up by English-speaking residents of the settlements frustrated that money for various cultural, medical and educational programs beyond the Green Line was not coming from the Jewish Agency.

Until 1990, individual settlements would occasionally raise money abroad for their own projects. But as the settlements and their needs grew, an organized apparatus appeared necessary to raise funds for all the settlements.

In 1992 the ICDF came under the aegis of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, the umbrella group for the areas' 144 settlements. The arrangement did not work out, and the ICDF left. The council, as a result, set up its Yesha Heartland/One Israel Fund.

Each fund-raising organization claims the other has a political

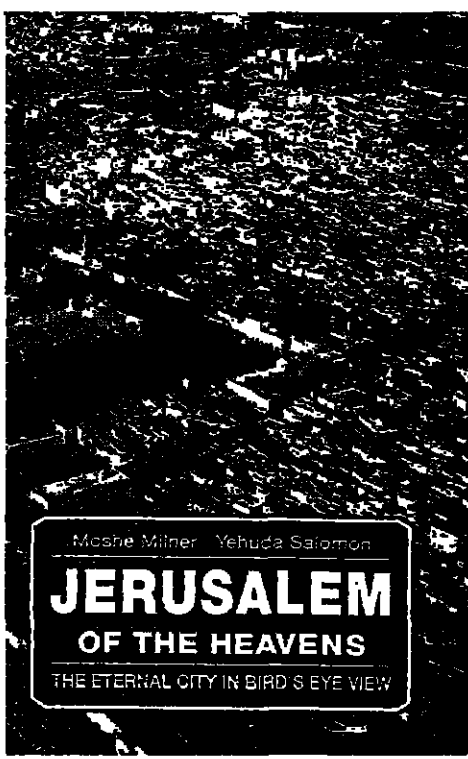
agenda with which it doesn't want to be identified.

The ICDF says One Israel is too closely associated with the Council of Jewish Communities, whose political activities, it contends, are not kept completely separate from fund-raising for educational, medical and cultural needs. The One Israel Fund maintains the Ariel-based ICDF is influenced too much by the town's mayor, Likud MK Ron Nahman, who they claim wants to use it to strengthen his political power base.

The ICDF has contracts to represent the Jordan Valley, Oranit, Sha'arei Tikva, Ariel and Karnei Shomron. The One Israel Fund represents most of the other settlements.

Yecheiel Leiter, director of the One Israel Fund, said his organization raised between \$2.5 million and \$3m. last year from abroad. ICDF director Dina Shalit would not say how much her foundation raised, but said its first-quarter allocations in 1995 were \$700,000. *H.K.*

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Easter brings a trial by fire to Jerusalem church

By miracle or luck, the Ceremony of the Holy Fire, on Easter Saturday, has caused no tragedy yet, Haim Shapiro reports

WITH thousands of local Christians and pilgrims packed into Jerusalem's most revered church and lighting candles, it is a miracle that fire does not break out.

The Ceremony of the Holy Fire, celebrated on Easter Saturday at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, is the highlight of the Orthodox Church year. (This year, the ceremony falls on April 22.) As the faithful wait in the darkened sanctuary, a fire bursts forth from an opening in the Tomb of Jesus and those present press forward to light their candles.

In a frenzy of activity, young local Christians vie with each other to light their candle first, so that they can run to bring it to their churches. The pilgrims, many of them elderly women from Greece and Cyprus, often have bundles of tapers, which they light and then extinguish, so that they can take them home.

Westerners have long commented on the dangers of such a situation. An American travel writer of the last century, John Stoddard, wrote in his *Lectures* in 1897 that the scene was one of "frightful confusion and violence." The enthusiasts, he said, were determined to obtain the sacred fire, even if it cost them their lives.

"Ten thousand men immedi-



Pilgrims and residents rush to light their candles in the Ceremony of the Holy Fire, celebrated at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. (Werner Braun)

ately contend like maniacs to get their tapers lighted. Twenty thousand arms leap forward toward the torches of the priests, like the leafless branches of a forest swayed by a tornado. Hysteri-

cally fanaticism rushes about, searing themselves with lighted tapers, as a kind of penance," he wrote. The Turkish guards, he added, "smile sarcastically" at the sight. These days there are Israeli

firemen, armed with fire extinguishers.

Uri Mor, director of the Religious Affairs Ministry's department for Christian communities, says the church is so packed that

the firemen can't move.

"If just one woman's dress catches fire, there could be terrible confusion," says Mor, noting that there is only one escape door. According to the arrange-

ment between the churches, this is the sole entry to the historic shrine.

This week, Mor wrote to the three heads of the Christian churches that hold the major

rights in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Greek Patriarch Diodoros I, Armenian Patriarch Tor-kom Manogian, and the Franciscan Custos of the Holy Land, Father Giuseppe Nazzari), reminding them of the danger and asking them to meet to consider opening emergency exits.

In the past, Mor says, there were other entries, including one in the section of the church held by the Franciscans.

However, according to Metropolitan Timothy, the secretary-general of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate under whose auspices the ceremony takes place, there is little chance of opening another door. To do so, he says, would be an infringement of the status quo.

"For centuries there has been only one door and this is connected with the rights and privileges of the Christian communities," Timothy says, adding that there is no reason to worry about a fire. "The miraculous phenomenon is that never in history has there been a fire caused by the Holy Fire ceremony," he says.

This was true, he says, during the period before the Russian Revolution, when tens of thousands of Russian pilgrims attended the ceremony. It was also true, he adds, during the British Mandate, when the authorities erected a "forest" of inflammable wooden scaffolding to support the dome of the church, which was in danger of collapsing.

There was a fire in the church in 1808, destroying much of the structure surrounding the Tomb, but it was not during the ceremony of the Holy Fire.

"We believe there is not even a cause for worry," Timothy says. He points out with pride that this year over 15,000 Orthodox pilgrims are expected, far more than in previous years.

Mor is less confident. As the official representative of the government, it is his responsibility to be present in the church, together with Timothy, during the ceremony.

"If anything happens, we'll both be dead," Mor says.

A Golani landmark versus a McDonald's trademark

An election has fueled a fight over the nonkosher McDonald's at Golani Junction, Michael Gordon writes

IT was a cinch to find the Golani Brigade Memorial Site northeast of Afula, where we attended a ceremony last month marking our eldest son's completion of basic training.

Signs of this famous site could be seen from kilometers away, from any direction. These signs, however, did not feature the emblem of the crack infantry unit for which the junction is named.

Instead, they displayed the golden arches of a McDonald's restaurant that was opened on December 3.

The restaurant - the only one on the premises - is not kosher, so kosher-observant visitors at this official IDF ceremony had nowhere to buy lunch. A midday meal was soon provided by unexpected benefactors.

About a dozen volunteers set up two long tables with piles of rolls filled with cold cuts, along with soft drinks, cakes and cookies.

Just minutes later a separate group of dissidents arrived, this one politically oriented. They said they represented the campaign headquarters of Moris Bar-On, who is running for head of the Lower Galilee Regional Council against incumbent Benny Gurfinkel in next month's election.

They passed out fliers reading: "The affair involving the McDonald's at the Golani Junction is just one of many examples of the character and behavior of the man who has headed the council for nearly a generation [Gurfinkel]. In this case, though, he has outdone himself by preferring the economic interests of his relatives to the sensitivities of the public, religious and secular alike."

Queried about the flier earlier this week, Gurfinkel denied choosing family financial interests over public sensitivities.

Several years ago the Lower Galilee Regional Council drew up a master plan for regional development projects, one of which was a restaurant on the land adjoining the Golani Memorial Site.

The council leased the land and gave the rights to develop it to Sherutei Derech, a company owned by several Moshav Kfar Kish residents, including Gurfinkel's brother, Emmanuel.

Earlier this week, Benny Gurfinkel said that "entirely objective criteria were used in awarding the franchise to the Kfar Kish Association, which was established eight years ago, and which my brother happens to be a member of."

MICHAEL FOA of Moshav Mitzpeh Netofa, who is spearheading the ad-hoc battle against the Golani McDonald's, calls plans for another restaurant a sop, since "the blueprint for the grounds leaves no room for another restaurant of any significance - certainly nothing that could compete with McDonald's. Besides, it would be just another gift to the same Kfar Kish group [to which the council awarded the right to develop the land] anyway."

Gurfinkel said a vending machine containing kosher sandwiches was installed at the Golani Memorial the week following the ceremony, and that a kosher restaurant will be open for business in four months.

He said yesterday that so far, only 60 vending-machine sand-



Hebrew signs protest the presence of a McDonald's restaurant at Golani Junction. (Michael Gordon)

wiches had been sold, indicating that there is no need for a large kosher restaurant.

Gurfinkel also said that the decision on the Kfar Kish group was reached at a plenary session of the regional council. He added that he was meeting yesterday with the McDonald's management to discuss a time frame for the removal of one of the signs. He said the other is needed for lighting.

Challenger Bar-On wrote the state comptroller on March 26, four days after the Golani ceremony, calling for an investigation.

In his letter, which is based largely on a January 13 report in a local newspaper, *Kol Ha'emek V'hagallil*, Bar-On claims that "Benny Gurfinkel himself has stock in Sherutei Derech and has refused to disclose any information about this, calling it confidential."

Referring to a March 24 report in *Kol Ha'emek V'hagallil*, Bar-

On's letter also denounces what he describes as rampant nepotism, since "the kiosk next to the restaurant belongs to Gurfinkel himself or his daughter." Bar-On said the kiosk is not kosher.

Gurfinkel refused to comment on anything in Bar-On's letter, saying he had not seen it. He said yesterday that he was traveling and could not receive a faxed copy, adding that he was not interested in hearing its contents over the phone.

Bar-On's March 26 letter indicated that Gurfinkel had been sent a copy.

Referring to a March 24 article in the same paper, Bar-On's letter also claimed that Gurfinkel "employs his daughter Yael as an aerobics instructor and she receives a nice salary from the council ... and he recently hired his sister-in-law Vicky as secretary of building and infrastructure in the council."

The letter adds that the regional council for many years hired a Gurfinkel-owned tractor service to clear the garbage of all of the settlements in the region, without the council having first issued a tender.

Bar-On said yesterday that the state comptroller has yet to reply to his letter.

Yehoshua Roth, assistant to the state comptroller, responded that his office's policy was not to discuss pending cases or even to confirm whether a complaint was received.

IN JANUARY, Foa sent a letter to the Public Works Division (PWD) of the Ministry of Construction and Housing (*Ma'atz*), in which he said that the McDonald's signs had been placed on

public property, which Foa says is illegal.

Gavriel Nelo, in charge of maintenance in the northern district of the PWD, wrote back thanking Foa "for calling attention to the issue" and informing him that a warning had been sent to McDonald's to remove the signs.

No action was taken, however, so Foa wrote to Nelo again on March 19, asking his division to enforce the law. Foa said he was told that the PWD lacked the technical means to remove the signs.

Nelo also told Foa that his division was filing a complaint against McDonald's with the police. Rafi, a Tiberias police officer who declined to give his last name, said yesterday that no complaint has been received.

Eitan Bar Zeev, assistant manager of the McDonald's chain here, responded that the regional council had originally given its permission for both signs. The PWD had expressed its opposition.

"One of the signs may be moved, but certainly not taken down. Establishments like ours, as well as gas stations, are usually given permission by the Public Works Division to have one roadside sign," Bar Zeev said.

Regarding the second sign, he said the PWD can move it no more than 75 meters away from the road, which is where its

jurisdiction ends.

Bar Zeev said the McDonald's restaurant is not kosher for economic reasons. "Someone else can build a kosher restaurant there if he likes."

THE MILITARY establishment is staying out of the fray. The IDF Spokesman's Office responded in a telephone interview that the matter falls under the jurisdiction of the Defense Ministry. The Defense Ministry said in a telephone interview that the regional council is responsible.

Allied with Foa on the McDonald's issue is Rabbi Shmuel Feinstein, who was one of the people passing out food at last month's ceremony.

He said the food-distribution project was carried out by volunteers from Moshav Sedei Ilan - where he serves as the community rabbi - as well as Kibbutz Lavi, Moshav Azorim, the Hodayot Educational Institute and Moshav Mitzpe Netofa.

"This site is part of my life," he said. "I come here every Memorial Day, filled with reverence. A dear friend of mine named Yossi Fleishman was killed in the Yom Kippur War, and a booklet which I put together in his memory is on the shelves of the museum here."

"The gaudy signs above us and the restaurant itself are a desecration of a site that is holy to the people of Israel."

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Director: Pedro Almodóvar
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Monday, 10.4, 8.30 p.m.
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Lecture by Dr. David Gurevich
Wednesday, 12.4, 8.30 p.m.
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In Tbilisi's main synagogue, which dates back to the second half of the 19th century, services are held thrice daily. (van der Berg)

Jews who chose not to wander

THE center of Sukhumi resembles nothing so much as a ghost town.

Hardly any structures survived unscathed in this capital city of the CIS's Abkhazia, which broke away from Georgia in September 1993 after a long and devastating war.

Unlike most of the other buildings in Sukhumi, its only synagogue was not damaged. Regular Shabbat and holiday services are still held in the beautifully decorated premises on Karl Marx Street.

In public, the community's rabbi praises the government for its support; privately, he says the economic situation is extremely difficult.

According to human-rights organizations in Abkhazia and Georgia, crime is rampant, including kidnappings. Jews and other minorities are vulnerable because they do not have their own mafias to protect them, the human-rights groups say.

Since Russia invaded Chechnya in December, the Russian border with Georgia has been closed and the standard of living

The remaining Jews of Abkhazia and Georgia in the former Soviet Union are battling problems of cash and crime, Willem van der Berg reports

in Abkhazia has continued to plummet.

Abkhazia is now completely isolated and can be reached only from Turkey by a ferry that operates infrequently. Almost all the Jews in Abkhazia, most of whom lived in Sukhumi, were evacuated by the Jewish Agency some months after the war started in 1992. But about 160 families chose to stay behind, according to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem.

THE ECONOMIC situation is slightly better in Georgia, where some 800 Jews, mostly the elderly, live on less than a dollar a month, according to Riva Krupnik, director of Rahamim, a Jewish charity organization in Georgia.

These 800 poverty-stricken people, including about 30 refugees from Sukhumi, have just enough money to buy bread and can no longer afford rent or utilities, she said.

According to Krupnik, previously high government subsidies for water and electricity ended in November 1994. Rahamim provides some aid.

Krupnik also leads the Jewish women's organization and heads the Jewish Sunday school, which has some 250 pupils. Her native language is Yiddish.

"Life is extremely difficult and cannot be compared with any other country in the CIS, where people can make a living," Krupnik said.

Residents say organized crime is also an increasing problem in Georgia, and people are afraid to walk outdoors after dark. Homes are burgled, people are killed in the streets, and kidnappings are a daily occurrence.

There have been reports of swastikas being painted on doors of Jewish homes. Approximately 22,000 Jews live in Georgia, with some 18,000 residing in the capital, Tbilisi, according to Jewish Agency officials there.

Intermarriage remains a rare phenomenon. Only 5 percent of Georgian Jews intermarry, compared with some 60 percent of

Russian Jews, according to Lev Samovskiy, editor of the Georgian Jewish community's Russian-language newspaper, *Shalom*.

Tbilisi's main synagogue, a red brick building, is situated in the old city and dates back to the second half of the 19th century. Three services are held daily, and the synagogue serves as a meeting place where the city's Jews can socialize.

There is a kosher butcher shop next door. Nearby are two small synagogues, one Ashkenazi and the other Sephardi.

IN 1969, 18 Georgian Jews wrote to the United Nations demanding the right to immigrate to Israel for religious reasons.

Their appeal was granted by the Soviet authorities and is considered to be the beginning of the exodus from the former Soviet Union.

According to Samovskiy, *Shalom's* editor, "When we founded the newspaper in 1989, it was the first Jewish newspaper in the Soviet Union."

"Under [President Zviad] Gamsakhurdia's rule, we issued as an underground newspaper. Gamsakhurdia forbade all newspapers. *Shalom* became official when Gamsakhurdia was ousted and subsequently committed suicide in 1992."

Samovskiy said Jews today participate fully in Georgia's political life. There are two Jewish members of parliament. One of them, Jemal Adzhishvili, last year received the country's literature award for his translation into Georgian of Judah Halevi's works.

Nevertheless, Jewish Agency officials in Tbilisi say, an average of 220 Jews a month leave for Israel; 20,000 Georgian Jews have emigrated since 1989, most of them to Israel.

How Ben-Gurion turned DP's tragedy into triumph

EMERGING like apparitions from the smoke of the Holocaust 50 years ago this spring, the emaciated Jewish survivors were viewed by the Zionist leadership in Palestine not only as stricken brethren in need of rescue but as a moral hammer with which to batter open the door to a Jewish state.

At a conference at Haifa University last week, scholars explored the unusual duality with which David Ben-Gurion in particular addressed the problem of the displaced persons in the wake of World War II. By permitting himself to see the historical opportunity that lay beyond the appalling sense of loss and the immediate humanitarian issue, Ben-Gurion achieved a stunning victory for the Zionist cause.

The decision of 90 percent of the DPs to seek their future in Palestine — a decision to which the Jewish state may well owe its creation — was far from a foregone conclusion at war's end.

In a survey taken by the US Army among 2,600 Jewish survivors in Dachau in May 1945, the month the shooting stopped, two-thirds said they wanted to return to their prewar homes. This, noted Prof. Yoav Gelber of Haifa University, was a natural desire, if only because the survivors wanted to find relatives and friends who might still be alive.

Of the remaining third polled, most said they wanted to emigrate to other countries. Only 10 percent of those polled indicated a desire to immigrate to Palestine. Many of these, Gelber suggested, probably did so because they had relatives here.

Only eight months later, when an Anglo-American committee weighing the future of Palestine toured the DP camps, the overwhelming majority of the more than 100,000 survivors who had assembled by then demanded entry to Palestine. The change had been brought about in good measure by contacts in that intervening period between the DPs and thousands of Palestinian Jewish soldiers serving with the British Army, a spontaneous contact subsequently augmented by emissaries sent from the Yishuv, the Jewish community in Palestine.

"Ben-Gurion saw that only a combination of pressures from the Yishuv, American Jewry and the DPs could bring about the state," Gelber said. Ben-Gurion positioned himself during much of the critical year after the war, not in Jerusalem or Washington, but in Paris, in order to be near the DP camps where the central drama was being played out.

It was the moral pressure built up by some 250,000 Holocaust survivors crowding the DP camps in Germany or trying to penetrate the British blockade of the Palestinian coast that played a central role in convincing the international community to let the Jews have their own country.

According to Dr. Yehiel Weitz of Haifa University, the Zionist leadership had succeeded in channeling the DPs coming from the east into the American zone of occupation in Germany, so as to put pressure on Washington.

A conference this week reviewed how B-G changed the DP problem into a victory for the Zionist cause, Abraham Rabinovich writes

This, it was foreseen, would result in American pressure on the British government, and offset the Arab pressures on it.

Motivating Ben-Gurion, said Weitz, was not just the struggle for the state, as pivotal as that was in his calculations, but his sense that if the Jewish people were to survive the European Holocaust it was necessary to create an alternative Jewish center. "He feared that if a new center were not created, the Jewish people would not be able to recover from the blow it had received," Weitz explained.

BEN-GURION'S steely determination in this matter and his long view of history were already evident in a statement he made in 1938 after Kristallnacht.

If he had to choose between getting all the Jewish youth out of Germany by sending them to England or bringing only half of them to Palestine he would choose the latter, he said. Ben-Gurion's words, according to Gelber, were: "We are confronting not only the problem of these youths, but the historical reckoning of the Jewish people."

In the immediate aftermath of the war, Ben-Gurion blocked plans by haredi groups to send youths from the DP camps to Switzerland and England. He insisted on keeping the DPs together in the camps as a pressure group demanding only one solution: the Zionist state.

To create a state, the Zionist leadership knew that it would have to reinforce the small Yishuv by a massive influx of European Jewry. At the war's start, the leadership had presumed that millions of Jews would come to Palestine when the fighting stopped. When irrefutable news of the Holocaust reached the Yishuv it was struck with despair — primarily by the loss itself but also by the belief that this meant the end of the dream of founding a state at war's end.

"There was a feeling in the early months of 1943 that none of European Jewry would be left alive," Gelber said. However, Jewish Agency emissaries in Istanbul — among them Teddy Kollek — had established contacts with the remnants of Jewish communities in Nazi-occupied territory. By the summer of 1943, the

emissaries' reports gave the Zionist leadership reason to believe that some Jews would survive.

An estimate of 1.25 million survivors proved over-optimistic, but several hundred thousand would survive. They would make the decisive difference by their very presence. The Yishuv outreach to European Jewry before the war had been a very limited and selective affair — a small number of emissaries dispatched to Zionist youth organizations to offer a bit of inspiration.

This approach changed completely even before the war had ended, as the Yishuv leadership set a goal of mass aliyah, a task for which large-scale organization would be needed. The dispatch during the war of several dozen paratroopers from the Yishuv under British aegis into Nazi-occupied territories to establish contact with Jewish communities was only to a limited extent the attempt at rescue that it was presumed to be, said Gelber, since there was little the paratroopers could have done in this regard.

The principal objective was to have operatives in place among the surviving remnants when the war ended so that they would be persuaded to seek their future in Eretz Yisrael rather than attempt to resume their lives in Europe or emigrate to the West.

Shaul Avigur, who headed the illegal aliyah to Palestine, and others who had lived through the Russian Revolution, expressed fear that following the Red Army takeover of Eastern Europe, Jewish youths would be enthusiastically swept up into the communist establishment as they had been in Russia.

The new idea of mass, unselective immigration was not viewed sympathetically by all Zionist leaders. "There were warnings about the moral and emotional state of many of the survivors. One Palestinian Jew who had visited the camps warned that non-selective aliyah 'would turn the country into a madhouse.'"

According to Gelber, Rabbi Yehuda Leib Maimon, the Mizrahi religious-Zionist representative on the Jewish Agency executive, warned that unselective aliyah would be a catastrophe for the unborn state.

However, another member of the executive, Elyahu Dobkin, disagreed. Dobkin, who headed the agency's immigration department, noted that although many of the survivors were broken and desperate, the Yishuv had no choice but to accept them all because the survivors had nowhere else to go.

Ben-Gurion himself, after visiting the camps, wrote that while he had found corruption, it was less than he had expected. In general, he said, the survivors were sound in mind and body and had deep Zionist instincts.

Dr. Irit Keinan, director of the Hagana archives, noted at the Haifa conference that the survivors themselves did not feel exploited by the Zionist movement. "Their mobilization as part of the struggle gave them pride and a feeling that they were not just victims."

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The rabbanit and the queen

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK with Amos Kollek

I can't say I'm particularly optimistic these days about the city.

The way things are going, I fear that sooner rather than later there will be an anti-Zionist majority in Jerusalem consisting of Arabs and ultra-Orthodox Jews. These are the fastest-growing groups in the city.

Among the more liberal Israelis, especially the younger generation, there is a tendency to leave and settle in new communities outside Jerusalem, or even in Tel Aviv. City Hall policy indirectly encourages this trend.

Yet there are also some joyous moments and instances of exemplary behavior by outstanding people who give me hope things will turn out well for Jerusalem despite the many obstacles.

Last week, the queen of Holland and her husband visited Jerusalem. During their brief stay we had the honor of having them as guests in our apartment. The queen is a nonpolitical figure and her visit was not meant to settle controversial political disputes.

Still, I was impressed by the civility that characterized her stay and by the pleasant, positive interaction between her and the many people representing all communities and walks of life that she met in Jerusalem. In this day and age, when every move by a head of state seems to have the potential of becoming a scandalous and provocative headline, the queen's visit was a quiet, dis-

creet, heart-warming affair.

Talking about majestic behavior brings to mind a Jerusalem woman, Rabbanit Bracha Kapah, who for the past 17 years or more has taken it upon herself to help needy people in her neighborhood, Nahlaot, and other parts of the city.

All year round she collects, with the help of some volunteers, items of clothing which are sometimes mended before being distributed to the poor.

A couple of weeks before Pesach, for three straight mornings, the rabbanit and her team of volunteers give out packages, each containing eight kinds of food, to people who line up outside her home, in a quiet and orderly fashion that would make any army proud.

It is done without much fuss or publicity, but with great care. Although the rabbanit is Orthodox, her help reaches everybody in the neighborhood who needs it, even Christians and certainly nonreligious Jews. This way she promotes not only the well-being of many individuals, but also the much needed spirit of tolerance in the city.

Such small acts, although they seem to pale when compared with bold political statements and the noisy arguments we see daily on TV, may in fact have longer-lasting effects. And Rabbanit Kapah is not the only one.

So, did I say I was pessimistic? Well, not entirely.

ONE of the more painful phenomena of the past few months is the twisting and turning of columnists who lustily cheered Israel when it signed the Oslo agreement. Having advocated recognition of the PLO and withdrawal from the "occupied territories" as a panacea for all that ailed the region, they are now bewildered by the less than perfect results.

No one reflects this bewilderment more poignantly than *New York Times* columnist Anthony Lewis, who filed three columns from Jerusalem at the end of last month. Lewis's decade-long obsession with Israel's soul is one of the most touching displays of personal involvement in journalistic history.

It is not so much the suffering Israel inflicts on others that bothers him, but the infinite harm to its own moral fiber that the "occupation" has caused. With the restless zeal of a Torquemada and the sort of patronizing arrogance only arrogant ignorance can breed, he has tried, week in and week out, to rescue Israel from the sinful, wayward path it chose in 1967.

Now the Lewises of this world have a problem. The flourishing democracy they expected the Palestinian entity to be has turned into yet another Arab police state — as cruel, savage, lawless, corrupt and oppressive as the other 22 Arab tyrannies. And Israel's soul, that most precious of all treasures in Lewis's world, has also failed to undergo the blessed transformation he so eagerly expected when peace dawned on the White House lawn.

Just the other day, the *Times* Jerusalem reporter Joel Greenberg told him yet another horror story. Not about those vicious subhumans, the settlers, but

Still trying to save Israel's soul

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

about the Israeli army now serving under the PLO-supporting Labor-Meretz government.

Not that the story is any more valid as news than most such luridly told tales. What Greenberg described was how eight Palestinian Arabs were held under terrible conditions in a detention room in Hebron. It was a small room, and the detainees had been held there overnight without being allowed out, which meant that they had to urinate in the corner. "It was so degrading..." Greenberg concludes.

A few details in the story are worth mentioning. The reporter had free access to the prisoners. Some of the prisoners had been detained because they "lived in the area where terrorists shot at a bus and killed two passengers." Others were detained for "trying to enter Israel with fake permits." And "one was a Palestinian TV cameraman arrested at the scene of the bus attack" (and released while Greenberg was there when the cameraman's bureau chief complained).

In short, all of them were either possible witnesses to a murderous terrorist attack or potential infiltrators to Israel. "It was just one of those familiar banalities of occupation," Greenberg says.

But was it? Surely, every reporter must know about detention rooms in New York's Rikers Island where conditions are at least as bad and where prisoners — who can see no reporters — remain handcuffed and suffer beatings and abuse. Perhaps that, too, is a "banality," but certainly not of occupation.

And Greenberg may have even heard of members of Women in Green who have suffered precisely the same fate in the hands of Israeli police at Jerusalem's Russian Compound. Detained Israeli soldiers, too, have complained of such degradations and worse at the hands of military police.

In fact, being arrested is obviously an unnecessarily degrading experience, and the abuse of human beings is deplorable. But Greenberg and Lewis seem concerned only with the fate of detained Palestinians who may have abetted murder, not of Israelis detained for demonstrating against the government.

With his usual single-mindedness, Lewis adds the following to Greenberg's story in his March 28 column:

"In a conflict so brutal that one side treats the other as animals — indeed worse than it would treat animals — which suffers the worst damage? The physical suffering is worse for the victims. But the psychological damage, the hardening of the soul, may be worse for those who inflict suffering and cease to care."

"Of course there are reasons for Israelis to fear Palestinians. Terrorists shot at civilians on a bus, and blew up soldiers at a bus stop."

"But the eight men in that stinking cell were not convicted terrorists; they had not been charged with anything. And treating them that way served the cause of terrorism. It could only create more hatred, attract more recruits to the cause of violence."

"That scene makes powerfully clear how essential it is for Israel

to end its occupation of the West Bank and let the Palestinians have a life of their own.... Every day of occupation, every such incident, eats away at the country's sense of justice and humanity."

"... peace is the most effective enemy of terrorism. If and when Palestinians have a place of their own in the West Bank, when they have elections and a political process, their own interest will militate against terrorism."

"The opponents of peace in Israel include settler spokesmen who say openly that they want to make life intolerable for Palestinians in the West Bank. The only way to rescue Israel from that world of hatred is to press on boldly with the peace plan, not letting it become hostage to extremists on either side."

It is, then, the settlers who are going to make life intolerable for Palestinians in the West Bank. The Palestinians, who have killed 132 Jews since the Oslo agreement, will turn peaceful and law-abiding if only they "have a place [Judea, of course] of their own."

Incredibly, Lewis has spent years worrying about Israel without ever questioning what the Palestinians believe should be a place of their own. Perhaps listening to a recent Arafat speech, in which he vowed to "liberate Palestine," or viewing the graduation ceremonies of the Palestinian Police in Jericho, in which the graduates gave the Nazi salute and swore to liberate Haifa and Jaffa, would give him an idea.

MAPS

A telling indication of Israel's

acceptance in the Arab world can be found in maps. Egyptian maps distributed at the October 1994 Casablanca economic conference failed to recognize Israel's existence.

A Jordanian map published in 1995 by the Royal Jordanian Geographic Center and purchased in Jordan last week shows no border between Jordan and the "West Bank." The Green Line is clearly marked, but the name of the country inside it is missing. Instead, the word Palestine is printed over the area of Israel and the territories.

As reported in *The Jerusalem Post* of March 29, Faisal Hussein's Arab Studies Institute publishes a map with no mention of Israel. Tel Aviv, Haifa and all other Israeli cities appear as "Jewish settlements."

Nor are the Arabs alone. A full-page advertisement of the reputable British travel agency Noble Caledonia Limited in the British *Good Housekeeping* of April touts a "12-day journey to Sinai, Jordan and the Holy Land." It repeatedly refers to the Kingdom of Jordan, and to such places as Tiberias, Ein Gev, Nazareth, Megiddo, Caesarea and Jerusalem.

But nowhere is there a single mention of the country in which these places are located. Since the relations between Britain and Israel "have never been better," according to Prime Minister John Major, and since the agency caters to many Jewish travelers, the omission is nothing if not puzzling.

The Christian Zionist who 200 years ago described the Holy Land as "a country without a people for a people without a country" probably never dreamt it would be the only country in the world without a name.

How today's Philistines de-judaized the land

ERETZ YISRAEL'S Philistine settlers continue to rewrite their host country's history and geography.

They are, of course, abetted by their Jewish collaborators. Now those Philistines are selling a de-judaized map of our land.

It was issued last week by the Jerusalem-based Arab Studies Institute, which Philistine propagandist Faisal Hussein heads.

The map:

- shows major Jewish localities — Tel Aviv, Haifa etc. — as "Jewish settlements";
- doesn't show the Jewish localities in the regions historically called Judea, Samaria etc.;
- doesn't list Jewish holy places though it lists the Christian and Moslem sites (both of which, with a tiny handful of exceptions, derive their sanctity from the land's Jewish history);
- lists Jerusalem as the Philistine capital;
- shows only the area of Jerusalem and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan occupied between 1948 and 1967.

True, "Philistine" long ago ceased to denote any living national group. In late 17th-century Germany, the term's German equivalent, "*Philister*," became a catchword among university students for ignorant townsfolk opposed to an education (*Webster's World Histories*).

Poet-essayist Matthew Arnold planted it solidly in this sense in the English language when he wrote: "...we have got three distinct terms, Barbarians, Philistines, Populace, to denote roughly the three great classes into which society is divided.... [The term] must have originally meant, in the mind of those who invented it, a strong, dogged, unenlightened opponent of... the children of light" (*Culture and Anarchy; Essays in Criticism*).

"Philistine" fits Hussein and the people for whom he speaks in two respects.

One: they speak of origins — their version, not necessarily the historical one. Well, the name "Palestinian," which they recently adopted, stems from the biblical Philistines.

It isn't certain who the latter were; they are believed to have come here from Crete. But their name, a Semitic one — Plišti in Hebrew, Plišti/Palastu in As-

A VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

syrian — clearly indicates they were "invaders, strangers" in the area of southwestern Eretz Yisrael they inhabited. The Tanach calls that area Pleshet/Philistia; the Septuagint, from the book of Judges on, translates "Plištim" as "*allophuloi*/strangers."

"Strangers" are most of today's "Palestinians," which stems from "Palæstine," the Greco-Roman form of "Philistia."

Read, for example, what Winston Churchill said in 1939 about the influx of Arabs from other countries into Eretz Yisrael in the wake of the Zionist undertaking and the return of Jews:

"...So far from being persecuted, the Arabs have crowded into the country and multiplied till their population has increased more than even all world Jewry could lift up the [country's] Jewish population."

(Joan Peters cites this in her epic work, *From Time Immemorial*, quoting from the official biography of Churchill by Martin Gilbert. Peters's book is rich in data about the relatively recent influx of most of the country's Arab population, refuting their claim to being indigenous here "from time immemorial.")

My second reason for calling Hussein and his ilk "Philistines" is how well Arnold's definition fits them: "dogged, unenlightened opponent of... the children of light."

Not that the rest of us are all unimpeachable "children of light." As a nation, however, the Jews are far, very far, from the contempt those Philistines/Palestinians display toward historical truth, human life, the concept of reasonable, mutual compromise, and the idea of assuming responsibility for one's actions.

Have you heard of a peace movement in Gaza, Jericho, Hussein's Orient House community in Jerusalem, in Damascus or Baghdad, even in Amman or Cairo, offering terms even remotely approximating the terms our Peace Now movement is offering, that our peace-intoxicated government is offering?

On the other hand, our Tzli Reshefs, Shimon Peresses, Shulamit Alonis, Yossi Sarids and Nissim Zivliss compete with each

other in offering our Philistines forgiveness and concessions.

MANY UTTERANCES of great men concerning their times have eternal, everlasting validity. Winston Churchill was such a man, and many of his observations on the situation of England and of civilization in general during the Hitler period apply to our situation here today.

In September 1938 he wrote to his friend Lord Moyne:

"Owing to the neglect of our defenses and the mishandling of the German problem in the last five years, we seem to be very near the bleak choice between War and Shame. My feeling is that we shall choose Shame and then have War thrown in a little later, on even more adverse terms than at present" (*Guilty Men* by "Cato"/Frank Owen).

On October 5, five days after Tory prime minister Neville Chamberlain returned from Munich announcing he had achieved "peace for our time," Churchill said in Parliament, where he was a Tory backbencher, that what Chamberlain had achieved was that Adolf Hitler, "instead of snatching the victuals from the table, has been content to have them served to him course by course."

About Hitler's swallowing Czechoslovakia on the pretext that he was defending the right of self-determination of the Germans of the country's Sudeten region, Churchill said: "We in... liberal and democratic countries have a perfect right to exalt the principle of self-determination, but it comes ill out of the mouths of those in totalitarian states who deny even the smallest element of toleration to every section and creed within their bounds" (*The Speeches of Winston Churchill*, London, 1990).

He also had something to say to those who try to sell "peace at any price" by means of scare propaganda about the alternative:

"Many people think that the best way to avoid war is to dwell upon its horrors and to imprint them vividly upon the minds of the younger generation.... A country like ours... cannot avoid war by dilating upon its horrors... War will be avoided... only by the accumulation of deterrents against the aggressor" (*Churchill Speaks*, ed. Robert James, London, 1980).



Heal the family, heal the world

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"For behold, I will send you Elijah the Prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord, and he shall turn the heart of the parents to their children, and the heart of the children to their parents, lest I come and smite the land with a curse." (Malachi 3:23-24)

JEWISH tradition holds that the most obvious sign of the much-anticipated Redemption is harmony between parents and children.

Since Pesach is the festival of Redemption, the Sabbath that ushers in this festival is called the Great Sabbath. So it's not surprising that the one figure in Jewish history associated with ushering in the Redemption, Elijah the Prophet, makes a climactic appearance in the haftara chosen for this Sabbath.

Legend has it that Elijah visits every Seder and has his own special fifth cup of wine, the cup of Redemption. The moment of his entry — we open the door for him after the Grace After Meals — arouses the interest and excitement of the children, who fix their eyes on the goblet, fearful lest they miss the moment when an invisible sip is taken. Elijah's goblet turns the hearts of the generations toward each other.

The last Mishna in the Talmudic tractate *Sota* (49b) addresses the problematic situation that is to precede and even portend the "end of days." The motif this

Mishna returns to revolves around what appears to be a total breakdown of relations between parents and children — "how the young will embarrass their elders, and elders will stand before children."

Basically, the Mishna is telling us that before Redemption can become a reality, the world will be turned on its head.

Both the Mishna and Malachi are dealing with the end of days. The Mishna addresses the prevailing arrogance of the age prior to the Messiah's appearance, and the reversal of roles, involving a total breakdown of filial respect. And this moral plague is precisely what the prophet Malachi is addressing when he says Elijah will be sent out on "that dreadful day" to turn the hearts of fathers to children, and the hearts of children to fathers.

It is significant that Malachi first speaks of fathers turning their hearts to children, rather than the expected turning of children to fathers. If the problem is the arrogance of children, shouldn't Elijah first turn the hearts of children back toward the fathers?

Today, for the first time in centuries, Jews are returning to Judaism. The *Shuva* movement is a phenomenon that gives renewed

hope for Jewish continuity. And this return has created an additional phenomenon: sons and daughters are actually bringing their parents back to tradition! We see children leading the Seder, and answering the questions of their parents.

This may be what the prophet is alluding to when he has the first "turn" coming from the parents — that in the generation of return, the generation of Redemption, the parents will first have to turn to their children in order to be led back to our traditions.

Allow me to share a truly incredible story.

I KNOW a man who lived most of his life in South Africa, having been saved by Christians during the Holocaust. He grew up with foster parents, turned religious under Habad influence, and eventually became a rabbi.

One day he found himself on a plane sitting next to an elderly gentleman to whom he felt particularly drawn. They spoke in Yiddish, discussing Israel, politics, and the Jewish world. When breakfast was served, the older man ate the meal of sausages, eggs and milk, while the rabbi ate his kosher breakfast quietly. The rabbi gently suggested that perhaps the elderly man could at

least do without the sausage. The older man replied that, since the loss of his only child in Auschwitz, he ate whatever he liked.

Two years later, on a visit to Yad Vashem, the rabbi saw a familiar figure near the entrance of the building. He asked the man in Yiddish: "Do you recognize me, do you remember our plane ride?" The man nodded. "And I still eat sausages for breakfast when I'm on a plane," he said with a smile.

The rabbi wanted to see the exhibits, and asked if the old man would join him. "I never go in," he said. "Didn't I tell you I lost my only son in Auschwitz?"

Something suddenly clicked in the rabbi's mind. "What was your name before the war?" he asked. The man answered, and the rabbi cried out: "Tante! Father! All I was given by the parents who adopted me was your name. I am your son."

Now they live together in Israel. The father no longer eats sausages, and the only thing the rabbi complains about is that whenever he enters the room, his father stands up for him.

Elijah the Prophet is believed to appear and disappear in the blink of an eye. Perhaps this miraculous reunion of father and son shows the hand of the ancient prophet: coincidence is often our explanation of the finger of God in human affairs. *Shabbat Shalom*

ENGLISH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF ISRAEL — ETAI
invites all English Language teachers to attend:
*** ETAI NATIONAL SPRING CONFERENCE ***
SEMINAR LEVINSKY, TEL AVIV
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1995
(Note: New Location!)

Registration:	8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Greetings/Plenary:	9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Workshops/Lectures:	11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Book exhibitions throughout the day.
ETAI Members: free; Non-members: NIS 25; Students: NIS 10; Olim: gratis
For further information, please call ETAI, 02-259388.

THE JERUSALEM POST
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GOLDEN AGE SUPPLEMENT
The Jerusalem Post will publish a special "Golden Age" supplement in May, 1995.
The supplement will appear together with both the local and the international editions of The Jerusalem Post.
All those interested in placing ads in the supplement should contact
Smadar Ratinsky, Tel. 03-6390333, Fax. 03-6390277.

ANZAC DAY
will be commemorated on
Tuesday April 25, at 11:00 a.m.
at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Be'er-Sheva.
On the same day, at 10:00 a.m.
The Australian Minister for Defence
Senator Robert Ray
will unveil a commemorative plaque
at Allenby Park, Be'er-Sheva,
to remember the charge of the Australian Light Horse
near Be'er-Sheva in 1917.
All who are interested are invited to attend both events.
Enquiries to the Australian Embassy, (03) 6950451.

Chinese training

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer
North-South vulnerable

North (Xiao)
♠ Q1064
♥ A5763
♦ Q7
♣ 54

West
♠ 2
♥ J1052
♦ 102
♣ QJ10983

East
♠ KJ875
♥ K4
♦ AJ54
♣ 76

South (Zhong)
♠ A93
♥ Q9
♦ K9863
♣ AK2

West North East South
3♣ 3NT 1♣ (all pass)

Opening lead: ♣Q

ONE of the most interesting features of international bridge is the diversity of cultures that play the game. Take the Chinese, for example.

China's international teams improve from year to year. This is because they are trained and financed by the Chinese government and because they receive technical and moral support from Kathie Wei Sender, of the US, who travels to China periodically and gets sponsors to bring the teams to American tournaments.

A friend of mine on business in China recently reported to me how the Chinese team trains. Every afternoon, 12 men arrange themselves around three card tables equipped with screens and bidding boxes. Thirty-two boards are played starting at 1 p.m. and finishing at about 4:30. The play is therefore at a speedy pace.

There is no discussion of the hands between the players at this time, allowing their concentration to remain completely on the game. In fact, there is not an angry word or exclamation between partners.

At each table one player records the auctions. After 16 boards North-South compares with the two East-Westers and in turn with both North-Souths. The coach and trainer stand anxiously by awaiting the scores.

After 32 boards the results along with the auctions are fed into the computer alongside the hands, which were dealt by a Cal-

ifornia computer/bridge program called the Mike Lawrence Bridge Dealer. Later that evening there is discussion between the players about the hands played in the afternoon session.

Does all this sound too professional? The training takes place on the outskirts of Beijing and a few kilometers away 12 women conduct a similar exercise.

These are not, strictly speaking, professional bridge players. They are, however, the leading players in China, and when training for the world championships they are given one year leave of absence from their work to prepare.

In days gone by, bridge in China was officially frowned on. With the economic development of China, bridge now carries favor with the country's leaders and substantial funds are set aside to subsidize and promote the game. The teams also travel to tournaments throughout the world, including the annual festival here in Tel Aviv.

The Chinese do not use fancy systems, as demonstrated in this week's deal where the bidding was simple and fast. East opened one spade and South, Fu Zhong, overcalled one notrump. Over the two-club bid by West, Wang Xiao, sitting North, jumped directly to three notrump, without mentioning his majors.

The club queen was led and declarer considered for a few seconds before executing his plan. He won the first trick and attacked diamonds. East won dummy's queen with the ace and continued clubs. Declarer won the king of diamonds, noting the fall of West's 10.

Now the nine of diamonds went to East's jack. East had no more clubs, so he returned a safe diamond.

Declarer won, cashed his last diamond and led to the ace of hearts. Finally, he made the key play of a second heart to East's king. East was left with nothing but spades and had to give declarer three spade tricks, for his contract.

The Chinese team will certainly be a threat in next fall's world championships, coincidentally to be played in Beijing. I wonder if other teams, such as our own Israeli bridge teams, should not take a lesson from the Chinese and begin a similar training schedule.



Local hikers spring out of their homes to look and listen while nature glistens. (Ya'acov Shaul)

Start counting swallows

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

SEASONS in areas with a Mediterranean climate are different from those in most of Europe and America. Instead of four sharply delineated periods, we have a rainy season and a dry season.

This doesn't mean there is no spring or autumn: these seasons are simply gradations of summer and winter. But because of the vagaries of climatic conditions, the temperature and duration of neither one is predictable.

Even so, when spring comes, you know it. There's something different in the smell and the feel of the breeze; you can sense it even in the city, far away from the resurgence of life in the countryside. There, spring simply is.

But exactly what makes it spring is elusive. You could be sitting in the sunshine in a summer shirt or huddling in a couple of sweaters; spring is not temperature, it's in this changeable climate. It's something else.

They say that "one swallow doesn't make a spring" and perhaps that is true - although I have never seen a solitary swallow.

But a great flight of swallows, chattering away and exploring nooks and crannies under the eaves and in the outbuildings, is enough to reassure you that spring is here. Swallows know when to come home.

Maybe the sight of a bunch of migrating storks wending their way back to Europe, or the sudden disappearance of the starlings, will signal the change.

Perhaps the cooing of doves, the clattering call of the cuckoo or the sharp trill of a male chukar partridge on his pile of boulders or scree will bring the message.

It might be the sudden sight of a pair of serpent eagles silhouetted against a bright blue sky and the flutellike sound of their calls. Or even the house sparrows, frenzied in their bickering over territory and nesting material.

AND THE greening of the land

signals change - the wildflowers, some so small you have to look hard to spot them, some so flamboyant as to be almost indecent, and the trees, barren through the winter, now burgeoning with budding leaves.

You hear the constant voices of the frogs around the shallow, warm basin of a winter pond where they are spawning, or the sudden droning of a bee, and remember it's a sound you haven't heard for months.

None of these signals is definitive: together they are the sights and sounds of spring, heralding new birth and a new cycle of life.

Spring is more than a season. It is a promise and a renewal. The English poet, James Russell Lowell summed this up in his fabled "Vision of Sir Launfal."

"And whether we look, or whether we listen/ We hear life murmur and see it glisten..."

"The soul partakes of the season's youth/ And the sulphurous rifts of passion and woe/ Lie deep 'neath a silence, pure and smooth/ Like burnt out craters, healed with snow."

Sweet revenge

CHESS

NIGEL DAVIES

VISHWANATHAN Anand scored a convincing 6½-4½ win over Gata Kamsky in the PCA (Professional Chess Association) Candidates final in Las Palmas last month. This qualified him for the PCA World Championship match against reigning champion Garry Kasparov - in Cologne, September 10 to October 15.

For Anand this victory must have been particularly satisfying due to his defeat by Kamsky in the rival FIDE (World Chess Federation) World Championship eliminators last year. Anand, two points up with two games to play, had looked set for victory, but lost after a remarkable comeback by Kamsky.

Many people thought this defeat might have left permanent psychological scars. Anand proved us wrong and showed a hitherto unseen mental toughness he'll need to beat Kasparov.

Here is the 9th game:

Anand, V - Kamsky, G
Spanish Opening

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7

In the games in which he played Black, Anand also chose to defend the Spanish. But he preferred the more active Open Variation with 5...Nxe4.

6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Bb7 10.d4 Re8 11.Nbd2 Bf8 12.a4 h6 13.Bc2 exd4 14.cxd4 Nb4 15.Bb1 Qd7

The topical Zaitsev Variation (9...Bb7 and 10...Re8) was one of the main battlegrounds in which Anand played White. Kamsky varies from his earlier choice of 15...c5; Anand then departs from the usual 16.Ra3.

16.b3 g6 17.Bb2 Bg7 18.Qc1 Rac8 19.Bc3 c5 20.d5

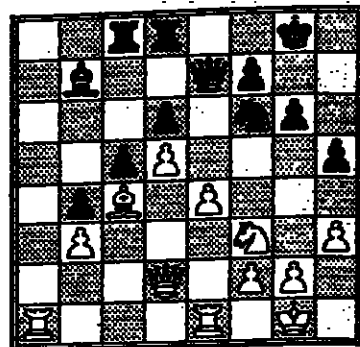
Establishing an advantage in space. The subsequent exchange of dark-squared bishops increases White's edge by weakening the enemy kingside.

20...Qe7 21.Nf1 Nh7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Ne3 h5 24.Qd2 Kg8 25.axb5 axb5 26.Nd1 Na6 27.Nc3 b4 28.Nb5 Nc7 29.Bd3 Nxb5 30.Bxb5 Red8 31.Bc4 Nf6 (see diagram)

White has built up an excellent position; central pawn majority, open file on the queenside and a weakened enemy kingside. But the way he drives these advantages home is very impressive. A series of powerful moves makes it look like a forced win for White.

32.Qb6! Qf8 33.Qg5! Qg7

34.Ra7! Rc7 35.Ba6! Rb8 36.c5! Ne8 37.Rxb7 Rxb7 38.Bxb7 Rxb7 39.Qd8 Qf8 40.Ra1 Ne7 41.Qd7 Qb8 42.Qxd6 c4



An attempt to get counterplay, but Black is lost in any case.

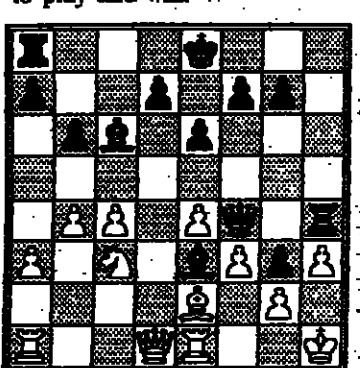
43.bxc4 b3 44.Rb1 b2 45.Qc5 Rb3 46.Qd4 Qb4 47.Ng5 Rc3 48.QM 49.exd6 Nxd5 50.f7+ 1-0

The play of a future world champion?

Despite his defeat, Kamsky is very much alive in the World Championship stakes. FIDE and the rival PCA seem about to agree, and a match is likely between the FIDE and PCA champions to unify the two cycles.

The current FIDE champion is Anatoly Karpov, but Kamsky has now qualified for a title match against him by disposing of Valery Salov in the semifinals of the FIDE championship eliminators. Karpov reached the final with a victory over Boris Gelfand.

THIS WEEK'S problem is from a 1988 game in which Hungarian Grandmaster Istvan Farago succumbs to the Dutch International Master Hermann Grooten. Black to play and win.



Solution: The conclusion was 1...Rxb3+! 2.gxh3 g2+ 3.Kxg2 Qg5+ when White resigned because of the unpleasant choice between 4.Kf1 Qg1 mate and 4.Kh1 Qg3 (threatening 5...Qxh3 mate) 5.Bf1 Qg1 mate.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 7 South American feature about grassland (7)
8 Bound top dine out after tea (7)
10 Rebel MP has reformed—so he swears (10)
11 Frederick is so greatly heartened by a token of affection (4)
12 Previous examination of Beethoven's Sixth (8)
14 Isn't capable of getting a girl into bed (6)
15 Argument about entering changed situation (11)
19 Unwilling to be clad in Anglican dress (8)
20 If I trace design, that shows cunning (8)
22 A love for colour (4)

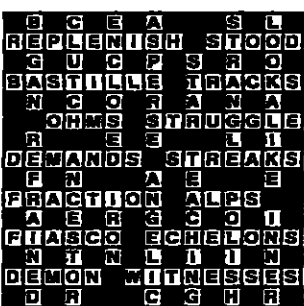
- 23 Thought giant king should be included in official mention (10)
25 Cleric confronts Irish misfortune (7)
26 Great wealth brings good luck (7)

DOWN

- 1 Chief Greek epic for a thousand years (7)
2 Sign of the cross (4)
3 Woman beset by conflict in the laundry (6)

- 4 Quick way to produce a crop (5,3)
5 Reprimand for leaving the mattress uncovered (7,3)
6 Writer goes to Jerusalem guest house (7)
9 Coppers get little satisfaction (5,6)
13 Malicious gossip from a novelist? (4,6)
16 Duty to convey the monarch from train (8)
17 Soft soap for a cleaning cloth (7)
18 Bill needs consideration (7)
21 Army picture of a military pageant? (6)
24 Word of appreciation repeated for so long (2-2)

SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1. Broom, 4. Oreste, 5. Pomer, 8. Avenue, 10. Transit, 11. Deep, 13. Rose, 14. Sewn, 15. Leah, 16. Gen, 21. Etch, 23. Swallow, 25. Invoice, 26. Tria, 27. Drive, 28. Archer.
DOWN: 1. Refute, 2. Compare, 3. Upland, 4. Oven, 5. Adage, 6. Broom, 7. Tarn, 13. Elevator, 16. Selfish, 17. Behind, 19. Mole, 20. Apper, 22. Civil, 24. Dire.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Interacted (7)
5 Verity (5)
8 Sluggish (6)
9 Save from wreck (7)
10 Andalusian city (7)
11 Mexican Indian (5)
12 Day nursery (6)
14 Patch up (6)
17 Acute anxiety (5)
19 Dutch province (7)
22 Erica (7)
23 Jewelled headband (5)
24 Money order (5)
25 Muslim veil (7)

DOWN

- 1 Hold fast (5)
2 Gormandized (7)
3 Hindu aphorism (5)
4 Gloomy (6)
5 Analyse and compare (7)
6 Precise (5)
7 Patella (7)
12 Trained (7)
13 Light ace (7)
15 Public praise (7)
16 Prey (6)
18 African republic (5)
20 Estimates (5)
21 Express gratitude (5)

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Taba Border Crossing Post

NOTICE TO THOSE USING THE TABA CROSSING POST

We expect considerable pressure on the Taba Crossing Post at Pessah, and drivers who do not wish to cross the border are therefore requested not to bring vehicles into the vicinity of the crossing post, at that time.

Building work at the new border crossing post will create delays in the passage of traffic through the post, and we are apologizing to the public.

In order to cross over into Egypt at Taba, you need:

- A passport with validity of at least three months.
- An IDF permit to go abroad, or a document showing you are exempt from army duty. (Such a permit is not obtainable at the post.)
- Cash to pay the fee of NIS45.

The Authority has introduced an arrangement whereby the fee can be paid at the following post offices and First International Bank branches:

City	Post Office Branch	First International Bank Branch
Tel Aviv	Mikveh Yisrael, 7 Mikveh Yisrael	Dizengoff, 2 Reines, Dizengoff Sq.
Jerusalem	Central, 22 Jaffa	Main, 10 Hillel
Haifa	Shikmona, 19 Pal Yam	Main, 3 Habankim
Beersheba	9 Haness'im	53 Ha'atzma'ut
Eilat	Canion Ha'adom, Sd. Hatmarim	New Tourist Center
Tiberias		Kikar Rassco

Passengers crossing in vehicles:

- Only private cars and motorcycles whose owners are present may cross the border.
- All other vehicles (commercial, diesel, four-wheel drive, rental and trucks) will not be allowed to cross.
- Drivers are advised to bring an English translation of their driving license and a comprehensive insurance policy (available at all Merni branches in Israel).

To save time and the necessity of waiting in a long line make sure to follow the above instructions.

The Israel Airport Authority Management wishes all travelers Hag Sameah

FERNANDO

Help floor

Life in another country with a Green Line

Eat mezze, buy a postcard, look through the UN fortifications at a mosque, Ruth Kern writes after a brush with the split personality of life in Cyprus

THE last 150 pages of the Cyprus phone book haven't been updated in 20 years.

The reason isn't inefficiency, but politics. "The telephones are temporarily out of operation due to the occupation of the towns by the Turkish army," reads the Cyprus Telecommunication Authority advisory on its listings for Famagusta, Kyrenia and Morphou.

As one chic, 40-ish Cypriot career woman explains it: "We must keep it the way it was; otherwise it means we accept the situation."

The "situation" is, of course, Turkish control of 40 percent of the island following a military invasion in 1974, only 14 years after independence from Great Britain.

A few minutes later the conversation turns to a New Age-style therapeutic weekend. There, the woman explains, she learned how to release negative emotions; to let go.

Although she was clearly unaware of the irony of that conversational juxtaposition, it seems to typify the Cypriot approach to their predicament.

They are intent on keeping psychological wounds of the occupation fresh, but leave wishful thinking behind otherwise.

Those wounds were especially apparent during a three-day hop to the island late last month, sponsored by the Hilton Hotels. It coincided with the Greek Independence Day and, for the first time since 1974, the Greek military was showing open support for its Cypriot cousins with a parade - complete with missiles - through the streets of the capital Nicosia.

The Greek Defense Minister, Yerasimos Arsenis, was there to talk up a joint defense doctrine. Mustahid generals took cups of coffee and talked in small clusters around tables in the hotel lobby.

National feelings were running high all over the city.

On Friday at dusk, the eve of the holiday, a procession of worshippers crossed themselves over and over as they followed an Orthodox priest holding an icon into the Byzantine-style Ayios Spyridon church in downtown Nicosia.

Although the grounds of the church appeared somewhat neglected, with weeds growing wild around the graves of five clerics - whose bas-relief likenesses could be distinguished only by the cut of a beard, or angle of a head - inside the place was packed.

The heavy turnout was due to the imminent holiday, said one bystander, as he and the priest nodded at each other.

NICOSIA - Europe's only divided capital - is split down the mid-

dle by a Green Line manned by UN troops, and in the surrounding Kyrenia Mountains an enormous Turkish flag has been painted into the landscape.

It's a constant, galling reminder of loss. Educated, middle-aged Cypriots speak of a generalized sadness over what is gone.

"As I get older, I become more nostalgic for the home we left," says a 38-year-old woman, dressed in a leather jacket and cowboy boots, whose family left the northern town of Kyrenia in the wake of the invasion.

"We used to be more like the Greek Islanders, but since '74 we have changed. Some of us have become harder, some softer."

She, like many Cypriots, did her university studies in Athens. The island republic established its own university only last year, and the course selection is still severely limited.

Universities in the UK and US are other favored destinations for the education-hungry Cypriots.

The conversation is taking place around a restaurant table in the neighborhood of Laiki Yitonia, through which the Green Line passes.

Once a center for artisans and workshops, it was largely depopulated in '74.

In an effort to lure people back, the government invested in fixing up the century-old buildings and turning the area, which is bounded on one side by a 16th-century Venetian wall, into a pedestrian mall.

The artisans never came back, and were replaced mainly by tourist restaurants and shops.

Eat some mezze, buy a postcard, look through the UN fortifications at the mosque on the other side of the Green Line.

IN FACT, tourism is the island's No. 1 industry, accounting for 20 percent of GNP and 25 percent of the workforce in one way or another.

(Manufacturing, shipping and offshore banking are other pillars of the economy.)

"Two million visitors - more than double the resident population of 750,000 - come to Cyprus each year."

Most are sun-starved English, Germans and, increasingly, the "new Russians," about whom it seems everyone has a story involving huge rolls of cash.

They may prove off-putting to other tourists. "German tour operators are telling the hoteliers, 'Please not so many Russians,'" said one tourism official.

About 60,000 Israelis came last year, according to tourism professionals.

Tourists fly into Larnaca, as there has been no international service at the Nicosia airport since 1974. Nor is it likely to be re-opened.

is about NIS 160 to NIS 220 per couple, with rates slightly higher on weekends and holidays. The price of some rooms includes breakfast; other rooms have facilities for light meals. The service, which runs 24 hours a day, but is closed on Sabbath and holidays, may be reached at 06-902041.

ROOMS ARE also available at Mitze Hayamin, a nature and beauty resort near Rosh Pina, which is offering a free flight and massage to those booking at least four days. Prices for half board are NIS 510 per night for a single and NIS 870 for a couple.



Among Cyprus's 2 million tourists each year, many are 'new Russians,' about whom everyone seems to have a story involving huge rolls of cash. Here, two Russians window shop. (AP)

"No, it all depends on the Turks, and I don't think there will be peace," says one crisply

dressed hotel executive. People in Limassol, the largest tourist center, don't really want peace

either, he suggests. "It would hurt their business," he explains.

Wedding package - with witnesses

IN a sign of its seriousness about developing Israeli tourism, the Cyprus Tourism Organization is planning to open an office in Tel Aviv in the very near future.

Part of this interest stems from an interest in hopping on the tourism peace train created by the peace treaty with Jordan.

Israelis are "good spenders, better than the Swiss," according to one official from the organization. "They may only stay for a few days, but they stay in four- and five-star hotels."

One of the latter is the Cyprus Hilton in Nicosia, which, with the help of the government - a 51

percent shareholder - has invested \$12 million in a new executive wing.

The faux-folkloric wing includes 84 executive rooms, a clubroom, lobby and four-story atrium, business center with communications services, conference rooms and a luxurious health club.

For those interested in taking advantage of Cyprus's civil marriages - and 500 Israeli couples have over the past two years - Groutas Tours offers four-day packages.

The company makes all wedding arrangements, including translators, witnesses and hotel stay. R.K.

Northern kibbutzim full for Pessah; moshavim still have rooms

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

ROOMS in kibbutzim in the north are almost fully booked for Pessah, especially for the Seder weekend, but rooms in moshavim are still available, according to Galilphone, a new service which can arrange room rentals, even in homes which have one room available.

The service also provides information and reservations for such attractions as jeep tours and Jordan River kayaks. According to Galilphone, the price of a room

is about NIS 160 to NIS 220 per couple, with rates slightly higher on weekends and holidays. The price of some rooms includes breakfast; other rooms have facilities for light meals. The service, which runs 24 hours a day, but is closed on Sabbath and holidays, may be reached at 06-902041.

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JET LINE is throwing in a pair of Reebok or Keds sneakers with its package to the US. The \$1,046 package includes a round trip El Al flight and three nights in a New York hotel. The company is also offering hotel packages elsewhere in North America, with a per-person rate of \$64 for three nights in Orlando, \$74 in Los Angeles and Montreal, and \$78 in Toronto. The offers are valid until June 30.

TICKETS FOR shows, concerts and sports events abroad are now available through Col-Tour, which also promises to provide up-to-date information on what is

happening where. For the service, the company charges a fee of between 15 and 20 percent of the face value of the ticket, a charge which it says is not high compared with other such services around the world. Tel. 03-5606317.

IN THE absence of flights between Israel and Ireland, Aer Lingus, the Irish airline, is offering Israelis special fares of \$285 round trip between Dublin and Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, Düsseldorf and Frankfurt. There are also reduced round-trip and one-way fares from other European cities, as well as from En-

gland. According to the Irish Tourist Board, accommodation in Ireland ranges from £13 a night in a home or farmhouse to £70 and more in a five-star hotel. SABENA IS introducing a reduced summer fare of \$459, round trip to Brussels. The fare applies to the company's Thursday and Friday flights from Tel Aviv and Wednesday and Thurs-

day flights from Brussels.

CSA, THE Czech airlines, has added a second weekly flight on its Tel Aviv route; a third weekly flight begins in June.

AIR FRANCE has introduced a new medium- and short-range business class, L'Espace Europe. The main feature is a transform-

able seat: The middle seat of a standard tourist class row folds down to become a table, and the two adjacent armrests move inwards, to provide more room.

CORRECTION: The telephone number of ORCA, the time-sharing option headed by Randy Kahn, is 03-5232875, and not as published last week.

Etzion: Echoes of valor

SEE IT HERE

HAIM SHAPIRO

The beach resorts of Limassol and Larnaca consist mainly of sprawling strips of hotels, holiday apartments, restaurants and souvenir shops.

Precious few signs are in Greek, and bars with such names as Queen Vic's Pub abound. It's all depressingly reminiscent of televised images of Spain's Costa del Sol.

The ride from Nicosia to Limassol, through a virtually unpopulated landscape, hints at more pastoral pleasures. Orange trees and yellow wildflowers in the foreground set off flattened, green-scrub hillsides, then snow-dusted mountain peaks in the distance.

TURKEY IS a thorn in the Greek Cypriot side even in the tourism sphere, where its cut-rate beach holiday prices are cutting into the trade.

But tour operators are predicting - and hoping - that the increasingly tense political situation inside Turkey will drive tourists back to Cyprus's shores.

Meanwhile, they're constantly on the lookout for ways to attract new visitors. Gambling is one draw. Two casinos have been approved by the government, but various parties are still squabbling over where they will be located.

There are also plans afoot to expand a racetrack in a suburb of Nicosia, where every Sunday 3,000 to 5,000 Cypriots come to bet on the horses. Entrance is only 50 Cypriot cents (slightly more than NIS 3), and programs and announcements are in both Greek and English.

At the other end of the market are specialized tours for cyclists, art enthusiasts and "authentic" village holidays.

NICOSIA ITSELF is usually no more than a day trip for most visitors, but the capital - the national legislature is considering restoring its ancient name of Lefkosia - does have its special charms.

For Israeli visitors it may be like looking into a mirror whose frame is slightly askew. It feels very much like a smaller, more jumbled version of Tel Aviv.

Virtually every style of architecture in this country (don't look for the whitewashed exteriors of the Greek Islands) is crammed into the city of 180,000, with little apparent regard for straight lines.

In one glance the eye takes in a moshav cottage; a Ramat Aviv-style luxury apartment building; a villa right out of Herzliya and a crumbling cement tenement seemingly transplanted from Petah Tikva.

Yards are colorful but often disheveled, and once you're off the main drags, sidewalks appear then disappear into dirt paths with alarming rapidity.

Despite this slightly down-at-the-heels feeling, there is one unmistakable sign that Cypriots have "made it."

On a Sunday morning, when the otherwise constant traffic noise has subsided to a minimum, the streets are stirring with pedestrians. These are not Cypriots on their way to church, but Sri Lankan and Filipino maids on their day off.

It is always hard to imagine a small, struggling group of people when you see a large, modern community, and this difficulty is even greater when one visits Gush Etzion, which was virtually obliterated after being captured by the Arab Legion in 1948 and which has flourished since it was refounded after 1967.

To get an idea of the impassioned history of this site, one would do well to visit the Bunker at Kfar Etzion, which lies midway between Jerusalem and Hebron. The Bunker, which was central in the defense of the area, is also known as the German monastery, since it was built by German monks.

Part of this visitors' complex is a small auditorium, where groups and individual visitors can view an audio-visual program on the history of the site. There is a part which deals with the ancient history of the area and with the early attempts of Jewish settlers to make their homes here, but the bulk of the story relates to the establishment of the kibbutzim which made up the bloc, and their tragic end.

The four kibbutzim were Kfar Etzion, Masnat Yitzhak, Ein Tzurim (all religious) and Revdim (Hashomer Hatzair). During the War of Independence they were cut off and there were several unsuccessful attempts to reach them, including the famous convoy of 35 soldiers, all of whom were killed. The Gush finally fell on May 14, 1948, a day before the state was established.

The program utilizes photographs and narration to vividly, and without undue pathos, recall the incredible bravery of the defenders. The visitor, even one who knows very little about the history of Gush Etzion, is drawn into the story.

Nearby is a museum which houses the few items found after the survivors and their children returned to the area. You will have to ask one of the local residents to point out the one lone tree which was once a landmark and which is now all but dwarfed by buildings and greenery.

To reach Gush Etzion from Jerusalem, take Hebron Road to the southern exit from the city and continue south past Bethlehem to the sign for Kfar Etzion. For those coming from the Tel Aviv area, follow the highway to Jerusalem until the Sha'ar Hagai interchange and turn toward Beit Shemesh. Drive past Beit Shemesh, turn left at the Emek Ha'ela Junction, again following the signs to Kfar Etzion.

The audio-visual show is normally given with a Hebrew narration, but there are also English, German, French, Spanish and Russian versions. Admission is NIS 7 (NIS 4 for soldiers, and free for children seven and under). Call in advance: tel. 02-935160 or 02-935133.

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No surprises at Labor party for MK Dalia Itzik

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

If there were any doubts about the Labor primaries race being under way, they were dispelled by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres at a belated fling to celebrate MK Dalia Itzik's election to the chairmanship of the Knesset Education Committee. After lauding Itzik's attributes and commending her meteoric rise in politics, Peres told some 300 of her friends not to be bowled over by the Likud. "We're on the path to victory," he said.

Peres was one of three cabinet ministers who came to demonstrate their support for Itzik. The others were Yossi Sarid and Amnon Rubinstein. There was also a very good showing of Labor MKs. Peres stayed till the end, pumping flesh and posing for photos with admirers.

The party was supposed to have been a surprise, but there was so much whispering at home and in the office that Itzik could not help but be suspicious. The penny dropped after a colleague called to make an appointment with her in Tel Aviv. When she suggested Tuesday evening, he said without thinking, "We can't do it Tuesday; that's the night of your party."

A FREUDIAN slip that did not show up in the transcript of UN Special Coordinator Terje Larsen's address to the Diplomacy in Transition conference of Heads of Ministries of Foreign Affairs was Larsen's description of Foreign Ministry director-general Uri Savir as the leader of the "Palestinian" delegation to the secret Oslo talks. Larsen was a key member of the small team of Norwegian diplomats who facilitated the Oslo negotiations.

FOREIGN MINISTRY representatives from over 50 countries convened in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv for the Diplomacy in Transition conference to discuss how diplomacy could be used to make the world a better place.

What continued to intrigue everyone there was the Norwegian diplomatic coup. "We're thrilled that you're sharing details of the negotiations with us," Guillermo Enrique Gonzales, Argentina's undersecretary for external affairs, told Larsen, Savir and Samir Hillel, Palestinian undersecretary-general of economy, trade and industry, who deputized for Ahmed Qreia (Abu Ala).

"How did you keep it a secret?" queried Austrian Foreign Ministry Secretary General Wolfgang Schallenberg, whose own country had previously initiated clandestine meetings between Israelis and Palestinians. By not involving the bureaucracy of the Foreign Ministry, Larsen replied, "It was kept completely outside. Not even the director-general of the Foreign Ministry of Norway knew."

MEMBERS OF the Foreign Ministry Wives' Association gave their colleagues from foreign diplomatic missions a two-tiered biblical experience by taking them first to the Biblical Zoo and then to the Bible Lands Museum. Zoo director Shai Doron, who gave them a personally conducted tour, ran a practiced eye over the name tags, and, turning to Mar-



WIZO chairwoman in Daliat al-Carmel, Rada Kamal (left), WIZO Israel President Helen Glasser (second from left), and Lea Rabin kick off the group's Druse women's week in the Galilee town; (below) Chess master in-the-making, Alexander Kundin (second from left), and Alexander Krays (third from left) show off their awards in the presence of Lisa Samuel and 'Post' correspondent Nigel Davies.



shia Ferguson, wife of the South African ambassador, entered into immediate negotiations for a pair of rhinos.

Some of the diplomatic spouses are also members of the International Women's Club, in which capacity they were invited by Friends of Habimah chairperson Ruth Izakson to join actress Liara Rivlin for a backstage tour of the theater. Tatiana Nosenko, wife of the Russian consul, was well aware that Habimah had originated in her country, and was curious about the integration of Russian immigrants into Habimah. They are everywhere. Rivlin told her, except on stage. Fine thespians though they may be, their accents obscure their talents. But, she noted, many have found their way onto the stage in other theaters as well as onto the television screen.

IT'S NOT often that one gets the opportunity to celebrate a centenary, but Blanche and Harris Gulkos managed two in the space of a month. The Gulkos, who serve on Herzog Hospital's board

of directors, were in Toronto for the 100th birthday of Harris Gulkos's mother, Nancy, and arrived back in Jerusalem just in time for the hospital's gala 100th anniversary dinner, which guest of honor President Ezer Weizman attended without his wife, Reuma.

Weizman, conscious of the presence of his predecessor, Chaim Herzog, with whom he had attended another function earlier in the day, commented, "Since my predecessor is here, he can check my English - but afterwards, not now, Vivian." Weizman, like Herzog, served with the British forces in World War II; and both later served in IDF GHQ. Herzog as chief of intelligence and Weizman as commander of the Air Force. But his Herzogian links go deeper than that. Weizman recalled. Forty-five years ago in June, Herzog's father, chief rabbi Yitzhak Isaac Halevi Herzog, performed his marriage ceremony.

LOCAL ANZAC Day services commemorating the anniversary of the landing of Australian and

New Zealand troops at Gallipoli on April 25, 1915, are usually held at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Jerusalem. But since this year marks the 80th anniversary of that ill-fated landing, Australian Ambassador Peter Rogers decided to move the ceremony south to commemorate another famous battle from that campaign - the charge of the Light Horse Brigade near Beersheba. The Australian defense minister, Senator Robert Ray, together with Senator Michael Beahan, president of the Australian Senate, will attend the service at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Beersheba.

IRONICALLY, as the media focused attention on the Interior Ministry's refusal to supply a passport to Nassima Abu Hija on the grounds that she doesn't speak Hebrew, WIZO's Druse women's week got under way in Daliat al-Carmel, in the presence of the prime minister's wife, Lea Rabin, and State Attorney Dorit Beinisch.

Both WIZO and Na'amat have



David Charles garments, worn by the Duke of York and his daughter, may be part of a Jaffa Road renaissance.

long been active among Druse women, providing vocational training and promoting seminars on the status of women. Veteran WIZO chairwoman in Daliat al-Carmel is Rada Kamal, daughter of Kamal Mansour, former adviser on Arab affairs to the president.

WHEN SHE wanted to dress her daughters, Toby, 11, and Adi, 7, like royalty, Malka Abrams of Jerusalem found an Israeli connection. The David Charles garments worn, inter alia, by Britain's Prince Charles and his brother, the Duke of York, the Sultan of Brunei, King Hussein of Jordan, the Scandinavian royals and Princess Caroline of Monaco, are manufactured by David Charles Graff, the great-grandson of one of the founders of Zichron Ya'akov.

Graff's grandfather, Charles Graff, went to England around the turn of the century and entered the building industry. Graff's father, Albert, chose to go into the clothing business instead, and inspired his son to follow in his footsteps.

Abrams, who used to buy her daughters' clothes in Harrods, decided that the time had come to bring the David Charles range to Israel. She opened a store of her own, not in Tel Aviv's upscale Kikar Hamedina, but in Jerusalem's downtown Jaffa Road. "I believe in the renaissance of Jaffa Road," she says, "and I want to get in on the ground floor."

THE VENUE of a recent fashion show by Palestinian designers Hani Mourad, Nathalie Tabash,

Johanny Abu-Khalil, Saleh Hirbawi and Mohamed Atallah was the Jerusalem residence of French Consul General Jean de Glinasty. The event was organized by the French Cultural Center in recognition of the fact that all five designers had studied in Paris. More eye-catching than even the wittiest of their creations, however, was the huge runway in the blue and white colors of the Israeli flag. Although the audience was mostly Palestinian, there were no visible signs of Palestinian nationalism.

AND IN Tel Aviv, Kathryn Brochand, wife of French Ambassador Pierre Brochand, was the patron at a brunch launching of Yves Saint Laurent accessories in Israel. The introductory showing at the Council for a Beautiful Israel's Study Center brought out many of the city's beautiful people. The brunch was hosted by Beal Padani, the Israel representative for Cartier, which has the franchise for the production of YSL accessories. These were previously not sold in Israel. "It's a mistake we're going to correct" announced Marc Demazel, Cartier's export director.

RUMOR HAS it that when US Secretary of State Warren Christopher next visits Israel, he will elect to stay at the Laromne instead of the King David. Informed sources say that Christopher, who was transferred from the King David to the Laromne to make way for British Prime Minister John Major and his entourage, was doubly pleased with the latter hotel. Nor only did he

enjoy his stay, but the bill was reportedly substantially lower. US Embassy spokesman Richard Scorsia would neither confirm nor deny the rumor. The embassy would not contact any hotel, he said, "until we have a signal from Washington that Christopher is coming. Speculation at this stage is premature."

NOTWITHSTANDING his busy schedule, Jerusalem mayor Ehud Olmert joined pre-Pessah, nighttime shoppers at a supermarket near his home. Olmert, who could have easily jumped the queue by virtue of his office, earned the admiration of constituents because he chose to wait in line like everyone else.

WHAT COMES first, the chicken or the egg? In the case of the family of Daniel Lew, honorary consul for Papua New Guinea, it was the egg. Lew and his wife, Sonia, celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary at the American Colony Hotel in Jerusalem almost exactly three years after their son and daughter-in-law, David and Lesley Lew, celebrated their wedding at the same venue.

VIEWERS TUNING in to Channel 2 this week might have been surprised to see veteran Israel Broadcasting Authority news reader and anchorman Daniel Pe'er. They may have been even more astounded to see him with a head covering. No, Pe'er has not gone over to the other side, nor has he discovered religion. He was simply moonlighting for Educational Television as quizmaster of the Israel Youth Bible Contest, which happened to be shown on ETV's slot on Channel 2.

IN CHARGE of organizing the Israel Museum's 30th anniversary bash at the end of next month, Hadassah Levin dropped the phone in excitement when Oscar-winning composer Marvin Hamlisch, whose credits include *A Chorus Line* and *The Way We Were*, called from the US to confirm his attendance. Hamlisch will bring with him a musical tribute to museum founder Teddy Kollek.

THE PRIZE-GIVING of the 1994 Benjamin Samuel Best Game Competition showed that chessplayers, with the exception of Jerusalem Post columnist Nigel Davies, do not necessarily wear glasses. The overall winner was 21-year-old Alexander Krays of Ramat Gan (formerly of Leninograd), who lists karate among his hobbies. The winner of the junior prize was 13-year-old Alexander Kundin of Rishon LeZion (formerly of Moscow).

Kundin is arguably the hottest property in Israeli chess and widely predicted to be a great master in the making. In his spare time he composes music.

The competition was held under the auspices of the Jerusalem Post with a fund set up in the late Benjamin Samuel's memory. Presenting the prizes was Lisa Samuel on behalf of the family.

ANYONE CONFUSED about whether or not to sign up for supplementary health insurance in addition to compulsory monthly payments to health funds should consider the example of Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, who hasn't taken out additional coverage for himself.

AT 33, Zoltan Csaszlovski isn't the youngest delegate to Budapest's city council, but he's the only male councillor with an earring. Csaszlovski and MP Janos Schiffer, 44, who is also that city's deputy mayor, were at the Jerusalem Theater Tuesday for the gala opening of Budapest Week in Jerusalem.

The two, who are at opposite poles politically, also have contrary ideas about the tourist "musts" in their city. For the quintessential view, look east across the Danube from the Fisherman's Bastion in Buda, Schiffer said. Look west across the Danube at the Castle area from the Pest side, said Csaszlovski, an architect by profession.

At least regarding Jerusalem the two were in perfect agreement: The Old City was the true "must."

ALSO HERE for Budapest Week was actor-director Robert Koltai, whose film *We'll Never Die* was screened at the Jerusalem Cinematheque and will be shown on cable TV.

The film is partly autobiographical, he said, and each of the characters relates to some aspect of his life. "The uncle loves to play the horses," he said. "I, too, love to gamble."

One scene depicts the hero's discovery of his Jewish identity. In the market, the child overhears his uncle being called a dirty Jew and asks his uncle whether he is, in fact, a Jew. "Sometimes," is the uncle's laconic reply.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1995

Bankers' conference: A great success for tourism

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

LOCAL journalists struggled to find meaning for their readers, as the economic elite of Latin America descended on Jerusalem this week for the annual conference of the Inter American Development Bank.

For all the average reader might have cared, the attendees could have been oral surgeons. Their agenda was the aftermath of the Mexican devaluation crisis, and from a professional standpoint the conference's taking place in Jerusalem was largely incidental.

Not completely, though. One local banker said that the visitors expressed strong interest in strengthening their ties with us, possibly feeling that now is very much the time to reinforce friendships.

Moshe Sanbar, Bank Leumi's outgoing chairman and governor of the Bank of Israel when the country joined the IDB in the early 1970s, put those friendships into historical context. After Israel joined, Kuwait considered joining, applied in 1974, and was accepted as a member. Only the Kuwaitis conditioned their joining on Israel leaving. The IDB politely told the Kuwaitis to get lost.

And the event was a great tourism success. Many hotels will have done very nicely indeed out of the week. Another local participant said he could not believe that he was in Israel, the organization was so smooth.

Almost as important as the official proceedings are the high-powered social gatherings which precede and follow them. On Tuesday night, there were several fistfuls of central bankers and a budget surplus of finance ministers, as well as the great and the good of the local economy - and several other economies too - at Jacob Fränkel's gala dinner.

The following night, 2,000 more of the rich and famous filled the Israel Museum, together with the finest food and flowers, as the Saffra brothers and their various banks attempted to recreate locally the cocktail party which is the central social event of the annual meeting of the World Bank in Washington. They may not be buying Bank Leumi, but they certainly do have style.

Knesset to decide if banks can give investment advice

EVELYN GORDON

In a rare move, the Knesset Finance Committee decided yesterday to let the plenum determine whether banks should be allowed to give investment advice.

The committee, which is working on a law to regulate investment counseling, was split 4-4 on the issue - with all the coalition MKs in favor of letting the banks continue to give advice and all the opposition MKs in favor of forbidding them to do so. However, committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor) said the division along coalition-opposition lines might well have been pure chance, since there is nothing inherently political about the issue.

Therefore, he said, he decided to do something the committee has never done before - send both versions to

the plenum, and let the plenum decide.

Silvan Shalom (Likud), former chairman of the committee's capital markets subcommittee, said his main reason for wanting the banks barred from investment counseling was that it represents a conflict of interest.

"We all know that when you go to a certain bank, they're not going to tell you a provident fund or mutual fund belonging to another bank is better than what they have to offer," he said. "The Bejski Report [on the bank shares collapse] said this almost 10 years ago."

The Bank of Israel has come out strongly on Shalom's side of the issue.

In contrast, Securities

Authority head Arye Minkevitch said the banks are simply too big not to be allowed to do investment counseling - there is nothing on the market ready to take their place.

Furthermore, he said, banks will market their products to customers in any case. It is better, therefore, that they at least be subject to the restraints imposed by the proposed law.

Gal said he was convinced by Minkevitch's second argument.

"The net result of forbidding the banks to do investment counseling will be that they will do consulting by means of marketing, but without any of the responsibilities advisors have," he said. "I think this is something which will look as if we have made a dramatic change, but which will actually make the situation worse."

Industrial activity slowing down

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

INDUSTRIAL activity decreased in the first quarter, reflecting a slow down in exports, the Manufacturers Association reported yesterday. The association expects industrial activity to speed up in the second half of the year, based on a survey recently conducted among 190 companies.

In the first quarter, companies reported a slowdown in local sales, as well as a drop in exports.

The association said that 29 percent of the firms reported a fall in production, compared with 23% in a similar survey at

the start of the year. Hezi Gutman, head of the Manufacturers Association's economic division, emphasized that companies reported a growth in sales, despite the drop in the rate of sales growth.

Local sales remained virtually unchanged, with about 39% of the companies registering a growth, compared with 33% reporting a drop. At the start of the year, 44% of all firms reported a rise in sales; 23% a decline.

About 40% of the firms reported a rise in exports, compared with 58% at the start of the year.

CSC reports 91 percent drop in net profits

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEUMAN

THE Central Securities Company yesterday reported a 91 percent drop in net profits to NIS 1.74 million, from NIS 20.2m. in 1993. Earnings per share were NIS 0.28 from NIS 2.95.

Annual revenues were NIS 34.4m., compared with NIS 70.8m. in 1993.

Fourth-quarter net profits were NIS 718,000 compared with NIS 11.6m. (unadjusted figure) in 1993. Fourth-quarter revenues slipped to NIS 6.7m. from NIS 29.4m. (unadjusted figure) in the parallel quarter.

Rosebud Medical reported consolidated net losses of NIS 5.4m. in 1994, compared with a net profit of NIS 2.3m. in 1993. Revenues for 1994 were NIS 53,000, compared with NIS 3m. the year before.

Rosebud attributed the drop in part to a NIS 3.8m. loss on securities traded on the TASE, compared with a NIS 1.18m. gain in 1993. Additionally, its subsidiary, Healthcare Technologies, experienced a 84% drop in net profits in 1994.

Topline posted annual net losses of NIS 5.7m. for 1994, compared with net losses of NIS 6.66m. in 1993. Annual revenues were NIS 183.1m., compared with NIS 211m.

Fourth-quarter net losses were NIS 3m. compared with a net loss of NIS 4.5m. in the fourth quarter of 1993. Quarterly revenues were NIS 47.1m., down from NIS 52.8m. in the previous year.

Keter Publishing announced increased 1994 net profits of NIS 23.2m., up from NIS 1.2m. in 1993. Earnings per share were up to NIS 2.66 from NIS 0.15. Revenues were NIS 31m. in 1993.

The company received NIS 32.6m. on a property sale during 1994.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Shekem workers' severance pay agreement worked out: The Histadrut yesterday announced the compensation terms for Shekem workers already fired or who will be fired until December 31, 1997, as agreed upon between Shekem's management, the Histadrut, and the Clerks Union. The agreement also outlined the procedure for completing the dismissal of about 600 workers, and for future dismissals.

Dismissed workers who were with Shekem at the time of its privatization will receive 170 percent severance pay, with management adding 42.5 percent over the standard 100 percent set by law, and the rest being funded from a special fund the Knesset Finance Committee announced it would set up. Special fund money will be distributed based on workers' seniority and age.

IAI, El Al complete deal: Israel Aircraft Industries President Moshe Keret and El Al managing director Rafi Harlev will next week sign a contract under which IAI will install engine pylons on all of El Al's Boeing 747s. Following the Amsterdam air disaster, Boeing committed itself to replacing all the pylons in its 747s. The contract is still subject to approval by the two boards of directors. An IAI spokesman said the exact value of the contract and other details will only be released after board approval.

Israel Chemicals studying restructure: The board of Israel Chemicals announced yesterday it would nominate an ad hoc committee to make recommendations concerning the company's organizational structure. The board said it wished to emphasize efficient coordination between its subsidiary companies to increase profitability. Organizational changes should not affect ICL's existing legal structure, the board said. The committee will examine a proposal to consolidate the businesses of several subsidiaries to streamline management.

Court: State can penalize contractors for late finishing of apartments

EVELYN GORDON

THE state has the right to fine contractors who were late in completing apartments the government had promised to buy as part of its massive 1990 building program, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday in a split decision.

In an effort to get a large number of apartments built quickly for the waves of Soviet immigrants then arriving, the government promised contractors that if they built a house and failed to sell it, the government would reimburse them. For houses in areas of great demand, the government would guarantee 50% of the price, while in those of less, it would guarantee 100%.

Aproprim Construction built in the periphery. However, the government deducted 6% from the final price it paid, saying the apartments had been completed a month and five days late.

Aproprim sued in Jerusalem District Court, which ruled in its favor. The language of the contract, the court said, clearly indicated that the penalty was for companies that applied for their money late - not for those who completed the work late.

"If the buy-back obligation is realized... after the end of the building period, 5% will be deducted from the price of the apartment... for each month after the building period," the contract states.

The government appealed. Justices Dov Levine and Aharon Barak, with Elhanan Mazza dissenting, said the lower court's interpretation, though linguistically correct, was illogical - and the general rule of contract interpretation is that the language should not be interpreted in such a way that it leads to absurd results.

Leumi shareholders vote 10% raise for retiring boss Sanbar

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

BANK Leumi shareholders yesterday voted to give Moshe Sanbar, Bank Leumi's retiring chairman, a 10 percent salary increase which will be included in his retirement bonus.

The bank's shareholders' meeting approved management's proposal to distribute dividends of NIS 98.9m., of which NIS 81m. will be paid to the government.

The shareholders' public committee approved Avraham Biger, Ra'anan Gaitman, Ginsberg Ariel, Chaim Samet, Vered Reichman and Eitan Reif as new candidates for the board of directors.

The major shareholders also approved the re-appointment of Prof. Trivi Ophir, Amos Epstein, Baruch Bahat, Meir Gabai, David Kohav, Pinhas Shmuel and Yitzhak Rahav.

Sanbar did not submit an application to be re-appointed. At the meeting, he discussed his activities at the bank and received compliments for his contribution.

Louis Rot, head of Leumi's workers committee, said Sanbar and Bank Leumi general manager David Friedman made a good team. He said Sanbar had made an important contribution to improving the work relations at Bank Leumi.

Astaire and Partners Ltd.
Representative Office: 159 Yigal Alon St., Tel Aviv
Tel. (03) 696 3101, Fax. (03) 695 6369
Member of the SFA, ISMA and London Stock Exchange

PFM ISRAEL GROWTH FUND

- An Open-ended Mutual Fund registered with the Bermuda Monetary Authority, and valued weekly on Fridays in US dollars.
- Bid/Offer prices are published in the Financial Times under the Offshore Funds section.
- The minimum investment is US\$2,000.

Astaire and Partners Ltd. has been appointed as official distributors of the Fund, with Y.L.R. Capital Markets (1992) Ltd. of Tel Aviv, the Chairman of which is Oudi Recanati, as the new Investment Managers.

We shall be displaying the weekly Net Asset Value, together with our firm's daily Bid/Offer prices, on our Reuters Page FREEB, and those clients who are able to purchase such offshore funds may obtain details and a prospectus from our Tel Aviv Representative, Daniel Fuchs.

The Fund is a direct way of investing in the Stock Exchanges of Tel Aviv, together with those Israeli securities dealt in New York, and those shares of other companies which trade with Israel.

Any information contained herein should not be construed in any way as a public offering.

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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS				
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.4.95)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (USD/000)	5.375	5.500	5.600	
U.S. dollar (USD/100)	4.825	5.000	5.100	
Pound sterling (£100/000)	3.125	3.250	3.350	
German mark (DM 200/000)	2.250	2.350	2.450	
Swiss franc (CHF 200/000)	0.850	0.900	0.950	
Yen (10 million yen)	0.125	0.150	0.175	
(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (8.4.95)				
Currency	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	3.4319	3.4973	2.87	3.02
German mark	2.8254	2.8737	2.57	2.62
Pound sterling	2.1322	2.1546	2.09	2.20
French franc	4.7032	4.7791	4.62	4.7472
Japanese yen (100)	0.6111	0.6210	0.60	0.61
Dutch guilder	3.424	3.4754	3.38	3.479
Swiss franc	1.9039	1.9347	1.87	1.9159
Swedish krona	0.2845	0.2944	0.28	0.29
Norwegian krona	0.4741	0.4818	0.46	0.47
Denish krone	0.5358	0.5454	0.53	0.54
Finland mark	0.5879	0.5987	0.57	0.58
Canadian dollar	2.1031	2.1371	2.08	2.12
Australian dollar	2.1648	2.1988	2.12	2.24
S. African rand	0.8159	0.8271	0.79	0.83
Belgian franc (10)	1.0373	1.0541	1.01	1.07
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0225	3.0735	2.97	3.12
Italian lire (1000)	1.7071	1.7347	1.67	1.74
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.17	4.48
Egyptian pound	3.6558	3.6585	—	—
GDR	4.7231	4.8054	4.64	4.88
Irish punt	2.3424	2.3802	2.30	2.42
Spanish peseta (100)	—	—	—	—
* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.				
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI				

RACHEL NEIMAN



The general bond market increased 0.04% to 139.72. Government bonds were also up 0.04% to 130.09, dollar-linked bonds were down 0.06% to NIS 138.81 and CPI-linked bonds rose 0.05% to 139.62.

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

ZURICH - Swiss shares closed higher as easier interest rates sparked growing demand for banks and insurance shares. Overall volume was moderate as the currency situation weighed on the market. Dealers said prices could go higher in the near future if the dollar stabilized. The broad SPI rose 9.58 to 1,661.86.

SYDNEY - The share market finished slightly lower after being supported by a stronger gold sector for most of the session but succumbing to profit-taking pressure late in the session. The All Ordinaries index closed 2.1 points lower at 1980.3 after earlier reaching an intra-day high of 1996.9.

WALL-STREET REPORT

throughout the session, as investors were fed a steady stream of weak economic data. The Commerce Department said housing completions fell 9.5 percent in February. And chain stores released weak sales figures for March.

Some investors have begun to worry that the domestic economy may be slowing down too much for the stock market's good, said Don Hays, director of investment strategy at Wheat First Butcher Singer, Inc.

Trading was light, as many investors held back until they see March jobs figures. The data are expected to show a rise of 230,000 in non-farm payrolls and a 0.1 percent drop in the nation's 5.4%

Stocks may ease a bit if the numbers come in around expectations, said David Shulman, market strategist at Salomon

ROSS RATES

CURRENCY CROSS RATES

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr
MARK	—	0.9521/27	52.07/10	0.8196/99	3.4852/57
STERLING	2.2100/10	—	137.14/25	1.8108/35	7.7008/88
YEN	1.6091/22	0.7282/95	—	1.3195/22	5.6115/84

SFr	121.89/08	0.5514/23	75.68/73	—	4.2480/45
FFr	0.2667/71	0.1297/39	17.78/83	0.2350/53	—

Prices from 23:00 local time

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	363.75	+1.25
Gold PM fix	363.4	+1.35
Silver fix	536.5	+0.3
Platinum PM fix	451.75	-7.25

Months in parentheses signify contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from approximately 22:30 local time. All others are closing quotes.)

Comstock Trading Ltd. (Date 8-APR-88)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multisided trading

Commercial Banks	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Mortgage Banks & Finance	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Financial Institutions	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Insurance	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Trade & Services	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Industrials	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Property, Building & Agriculture	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Property, Building	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Property, Building	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

Industrials	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8
Bank Mizrahi	241.4	0.8
Bank Hapoalim	241.4	0.8

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Name	Price	Chg	Name	Price	Chg	Name	Price	Chg	Name	Price	Chg	Name	Price	Chg
NEW YORK			Chrysler Corp.	46.5	-0.375	Garber Products	39.25	-0.375	Microsoft Corp.	70.125	-0.5	Russell	30.25	-0.125
AMP Inc.	57.125	+1	Chrysler Financial	14.875	-0.375	Glaxo (UK)	34.375	-0.375	Ally Bank	49.375	+0.375	Ryder System	34.125	-0.125
Amgen	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler Ind.	14.875	-0.375	Glaxo (US)	34.375	-0.375	Amgen	57.875	+0.875	SPS Technology	30.125	-0.125
ASA	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (UK)	45.625	-0.375	Bank of America	37.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
ASA Life	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Asa Chemical	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
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Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
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Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375
Advanced Micro	57.875	+0.875	Chrysler	14.875	-0.375	Goodrich (US)	45.625	-0.375	Boeing	57.875	+0.375			

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1995 The Jerusalem Post

Case ends
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STOCK MARKET
CHEL NEIMAN
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Mact index
130.91
-0.14%
Karam index
The day's top gainers were Tel Aviv and Greenberg, which rose 1.1% and 1.0% respectively. Puffinberger, Mironi and Shalev were also up, while Israel Cold Storage and Israel Cold Storage were down.

ue-chip shares
ressive gains
MARKET ROUNDUP
The day's top gainers were Tel Aviv and Greenberg, which rose 1.1% and 1.0% respectively. Puffinberger, Mironi and Shalev were also up, while Israel Cold Storage and Israel Cold Storage were down.

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onomic news
STREET REPORT
The day's top gainers were Tel Aviv and Greenberg, which rose 1.1% and 1.0% respectively. Puffinberger, Mironi and Shalev were also up, while Israel Cold Storage and Israel Cold Storage were down.

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Shabbat begins
Jerusalem 6:24 p.m.
Tel Aviv 6:42 p.m.
Haifa 6:34 p.m.
Beer Sheva 6:40 p.m.
Eilat 6:41 p.m.
Tora portion: Metzra

Shabbat ends
Jerusalem 7:39 p.m.
Tel Aviv 7:41 p.m.
Haifa 7:41 p.m.
Beer Sheva 7:39 p.m.
Eilat 7:39 p.m.

CHRISTIAN
Jerusalem: 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Tel. 276111, 261048.
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JERUSALEM

MOSESHE YISRAEL - Conservative Agon. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri. Mincha 8:30. Sat. Shabbat 8:30. Mincha + Shir 8:00. Daily at 7:00 a.m.

HAR-EL SYNAGOGUE (Progressive) 18 Shmuel Haragid, Tel. 02-253841. Friday evening 8:00. Shabbat morning: 9:30. Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin.

BAPTIST CONGREGATION, 4, Naritas, West Jerusalem. Saturday Bible study 9:00 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. Tel. 259942.

ST. PAUL'S (Pentecostal), 32 Shmuel Yis- rael. 3 & 7 p.m. Saturday. Tel. 02-717988.

KING OF KINGS ASSEMBLY, YMCA Auditorium, 28 King David St. Tel. 610017. Sunday, 6 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, MT. ZION FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m. Fri.

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OTHER CENTERS
BAPTIST VILLAGE CONGREGATION, 3 km. north of Petah Tikva, near Yarkon Junction. Sabbath Bible study Saturday 9:45 a.m. Worship hour, 10:45 a.m. Tel. 09-574661.

ARTGUIDE

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JERUSALEM

Museums

OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish Community in the Old City, mid-19th century - World War II. 9 Or Haim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun-Thur. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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Impressionism - The School of Paris - The Moshe and Sara Meyer Collection - Sculpture - 20th cent. Modern Masters - Miriam Sklar - Coll. Israel Art - A Historic Presentation - From New Horizons Onward. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Art Education Center, Tel. 6919159/677.

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EMERGENCY

PHARMACIES

Friday, April 7

Jerusalem: Amora, 9 Leif Yaffe, 731901; Belsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 610108; Dr. Adwala, Har-El Gate, 282035.
Tel Aviv: Pater Market, 61 Yehuda Hayam, 622-2973; Anisovitch, 76 Anisovitch, 523-0748.
Ramat Gan: Kfar Sava: Avner Glick, 34 Weizmann, Kfar Sava, 429828.
Netanya: Neot Shalev, Ezorim Commercial Center, 362484.
Kiryat Motzkin, 7077703.
Haifa: Magen David, 13 Geula, 625205.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 5 Merkazim, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lav Ha' Mail, 570488. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Friday, April 7

Jerusalem: Hadesseh Ein Kerem (Internal, pediatrics); Sheara Zadek (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology); Hadesseh Ein Kerem (obstetrics); Shlur Holim (ENT), in case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, April 8

Jerusalem: Shlur Holim (Internal, ENT);

Sheara Zadek (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology); Hadesseh Ein Kerem (obstetrics); Shlur Holim (ENT), in case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, April 8

Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Aradim, 705850, (evening) Clalit Pharm, 20 Yehuda Hayam, 731475; (day and evening) Belsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 610108; Dr. Adwala, Har-El Gate, 282035; Tel Aviv: Belsam, 66 Herta, 623-3282; Beit, 23 King George, 528-3731, (evening, all midnight) Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Eilat, Ramat Aviv, 541-3730; Ramat Gan: Kfar Sava: (day) Clal Pharm, 114 Ahuzat, Ramat Gan, 612211; (evening) Shuafat, A. Yaffe, Ramat Gan, 617766; Netanya: Hadesseh Ein Kerem, 517766; Kiryat Motzkin, 7077703; Haifa: Derech Hayam, 208 Derech Hayam, 371472.
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The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital, phone 04-628205 for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Kupat Holim Information Center 177-022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hadesseh/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents, 6 Clio St., Kiryat Hayovel, Jm. Advice by phone 02-433882.

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Shipyards saved at last

Workers convinced they have a going concern

ISRAEL Shipyards was given reprieve last night, after an agreement was signed between the Histadrut, the workers and the potential buyers, the SKO-Car group, that was expected to save the Haifa Bay plant.

The signing ceremony, in the office of Histadrut trade union department head MK Amir Peretz, was hailed as an historic moment by those involved in the marathon negotiations.

Peretz immediately called Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, half an hour before the latter's scheduled flight to China, to inform him of the deal.

Shohat promised that if the

DAVID RUDGE

agreement conformed to the government's stance, he would recommend to the Knesset Finance Committee that it approve the sale of the shipyards to SKO-Car for NIS 40.5 million.

He also indicated that he would work towards rescinding the decision taken on Monday by the ministerial committee on privatization to liquidate the shipyards and sell off its assets.

Histadrut officials said they had been assured that with the signing of the agreement with the prospective purchasers all obstacles to the sale would be removed.

The agreement itself guarantees that up to 100 employees can take voluntary retirement at preferential severance rates of 180 percent over the next five years.

The workers viewed this clause, and the financial commitment to it of the SKO-Car group, as essential in convincing them that the prospective buyers intended to run the shipyards as a going concern, and not try to sell it off after a few years.

Baruch Zaltz, the Histadrut chairman in Haifa, said, "We have succeeded in turning the situation around and preserving the livelihoods of hundreds of families in the Haifa region," said



Youths participate in a stretcher drill during yesterday's Gadna pre-military training physical fitness day at the Wingate Institute. (Vered Yatschi)

2 held in murder of capital lawyer

BILL HUTMAN

TWO men suspected of murdering prominent Jerusalem lawyer Shmuel Levinson last summer have been arrested, it was revealed yesterday.

The detentions apparently put to rest rumors that Levinson's murder was somehow connected to his work as the chairman of the Human Rights Association.

According to police, the suspects were burglarizing the lawyer's Rehavia apartment when he returned home alone. They allegedly shot him dead and fled.

Kamal Yusef, 37, of Jaffa, was remanded yesterday for 15 days. The other suspect, Shalom Ovadia, 33, of Jerusalem, was remanded for 15 days on Tuesday.

Ovadia was originally detained two months ago in connection with a string of Jerusalem burglaries, and only later was it dis-

covered he was involved in the Levinson murder, police said.

Ovadia admitted to breaking into 141 homes in Jerusalem. Investigators connected him with the Levinson murder after seeing the break-in method at Levinson's apartment was similar to the others.

Yusef was detained Wednesday. Yesterday, a court-ordered ban on publication of details of the two arrests was lifted. Police sources said Yusef was not cooperating with investigators.

Levinson was fatally shot when he returned home from work on August 2.

He managed to telephone for help, but died after being taken to the hospital. (Itm adds)

Six-and-a-half years after a Tel Aviv grocer was murdered, a suspect was arrested in connection with the killing.

Oran Damani, 28, of Tel Aviv, was remanded yesterday for 10 days by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court on suspicion of murdering Daniel Haviv. Damani denied the charge.

In November 1988, three people tried to enter Haviv's grocery store in south Tel Aviv. Haviv's wife told them the store was closed, but the three tried to force their way in. When Haviv objected, one of the three pulled a knife and fatally stabbed him.

Police said that although the file on the murder had been closed after no progress was made for years, they recently came upon information that led them to the suspect.

Tel Aviv massage parlor brawl ends in death

A PARDESS Katz man was stabbed in the chest shortly after midnight Wednesday and later died of his wounds.

Police arrested a Tel Aviv massage parlor owner several hours later.

Yoram Cohen, 35, who was known to police, came to the massage parlor to pick up his girlfriend, who worked there, but got into a fight with the owner and the owner's brother.

Police said the owner then pulled a knife and stabbed Cohen once in the chest.

His girlfriend and the owner took him to the hospital, but he died while undergoing treatment,

and the owner fled.

Police who went to the massage parlor failed to find the owner, but located his brother nearby, then picked up the owner later.

Police said the owner may be charged with manslaughter, as he may not have intended to kill Cohen.

Meanwhile, the body of Suhil Haj, 30, whose throat had been slit, was found yesterday morning near the supermarket at the Giliot junction.

Police are investigating whether Haj may have been slain as part of a feud between Jaffa gangs, or because he was recently

reported to have sexually attacked several married women in their homes, and had been threatened by their husbands.

Police believe he was kidnapped in Jaffa and left near Giliot to throw off any investigation.

Haj had a long police record, and was released two years ago after serving four years for extortion.

He was also arrested about six months ago on suspicion of firing several shots at a Jaffa man who cursed him.

Haj was also considered a major participant in the war between the Hamad and A'ashur families. (Itm)

Wiretap evidence goes to AG

MUCH of the evidence gathered by police in the probe of illegal wiretapping of journalists and other media figures has been given to the State Attorney's Office, the head of the national police investigations unit said yesterday.

Cmdr. Yossi Levy made these remarks in a letter to the chairman of the National Federation of Israel Journalists, Arye Avneri, and its secretary-general, Razi Guterman. The two had complained in a letter to Police Minister Moshe Shahal that the ongoing investigation has not yet resulted in any indictments.

Levy, who answered on behalf of Shahal, said that all aspects of the case are being seriously investigated, but that revealing details during the investigation was likely to cause problems.

He said the investigation was being conducted "without fear." (Itm)

Bezek workers riot in TA

JUDY SIEGEL

TWO hundred Bezek workers rioted at a Citizen Rights Party council conference at Beit Hasofer in Tel Aviv last night, causing heavy damage to equipment. Police were called in to restore order, Israel Radio reported.

However, Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni said in reaction that such actions would not prevent her ministry from taking steps to break Bezek's monopoly on international calls.

About 30 Bezek technicians who were summoned to the Tel Aviv Labor Court yesterday said they were returning to work after three days of refusing to repair broken phone lines, but hundreds of others continue to apply sanctions.

Because those summoned said they would work normally, the labor court judge canceled the process for finding them in contempt of court. However, Bezek said it would continue with the labor court process as long as the sanctions are not halted completely.

Bezek staffers do not work on Fridays, thus there is a chance that some resolution of the dispute may be found over the weekend.

The workers, who applied similar sanctions for a week last month, are dissatisfied with the wording of a letter they received from Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who "stated" but did not "promise" that the pension rights of dismissed workers will be protected.

The union is protesting against the government's decision to break the company's monopoly in overseas dialing services. The union claims the move will lead to the dismissal of 5,000 Bezek workers.

Cellcom freezes sales in capital

JUDY SIEGEL

CELLCOM has decided to freeze "temporarily" the sale of cellular phones and phone lines in Jerusalem because of poor reception, due to the municipality's crackdown on transmitters and antennas lacking building licenses.

The company said it would stop providing new numbers until it receives proper authorizations for its equipment.

A company spokeswoman said, however, that residents of the Jerusalem area who agree to subscribe despite the spotty reception, or who work in another area where reception is good, would be able to hook up to the service.

The spokeswoman said she hoped the freeze would "be short and only a matter of days," but municipal sources said last week it could take weeks or months until the matter is straightened out.

Residents of the Armona and French Hill neighborhoods have gone to court to bar the operation of transmitters installed there, for fear that they pose a health risk. Cellcom denies there is any danger.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New UNIFIL commander assumes post

The new commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) Maj. Gen. Stanislaw Wozniak, from Poland, assumed his post this week. He replaces former commander Maj. Gen. Trond Furuhovde, who left at the end of February.

Wozniak, an artillery officer in the Polish army, has held several high-ranking posts. He was military attaché to the Polish Embassy in Washington until 1992, when he returned to Poland and served in the military intelligence department.

Immediately prior to this appointment, he was director of the Polish Defense Ministry's military international affairs department, which was responsible for UN peacekeeping missions.

Special Knesset session on kibbutz debt

The Knesset will meet in special session Tuesday, during its Pessah recess, to debate the government's plan to erase the kibbutzim's debts, after the Likud yesterday presented the Knesset secretariat with the necessary 30 signatures of MKs.

Michael Eitan, who is heading a special Likud team coordinating opposition to the plan, claims the kibbutzim own land and other assets here and abroad worth NIS 35 billion, and the Likud is demanding these assets be sold to pay the kibbutzim's debts. The Likud also plans to petition the High Court of Justice and to launch other protests to block the proposed plan. (Itm)

Clinton thanks Israel for Haiti role

US President Bill Clinton yesterday sent Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin a message of praise as the Israel Police contingent finished its work in Haiti.

"The multinational force successfully completed its task of assuring that the rebel leaders would leave the country, a democratically elected government would take office, and an atmosphere of stability and security would be created," he wrote. "All the countries participating in the force are to be praised for an exceptional job."

Disbarred lawyer may have still worked

A 50-year-old former lawyer whose license was revoked is suspected of continuing to sign documents and perform services for clients as a lawyer, and thus defrauding them of some \$400,000, Tel Aviv police said yesterday.

Police say they have uncovered 25 examples of fraud by the man, including several instances of signing license applications for contractors as if he was still an attorney. The information has been passed to the Tel Aviv District Attorney to prepare an indictment.

The Tel Aviv police fraud unit has recently gathered evidence against several people posing as attorneys under various circumstances. (Itm)

MDA nominates new chief

Magen David Adom's executive committee has approved the nomination of Amos Luria as director-general of the organization.

Luria's appointment must be formally approved by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, who is known to support the candidacy. Yohanan Gur, who has been acting director-general as well as chairman of the executive committee, will continue to serve in the latter capacity.

MDA has not had a permanent director-general since the resignation of Dr. Ya'akov Adler under pressure from the Health Ministry, which wanted a person with economic experience to get the blood-collection and first-aid organization financially healthy.

US Senate group whittled down

What was to have been one of the largest Congressional delegations to visit Israel has now been whittled down to just two members.

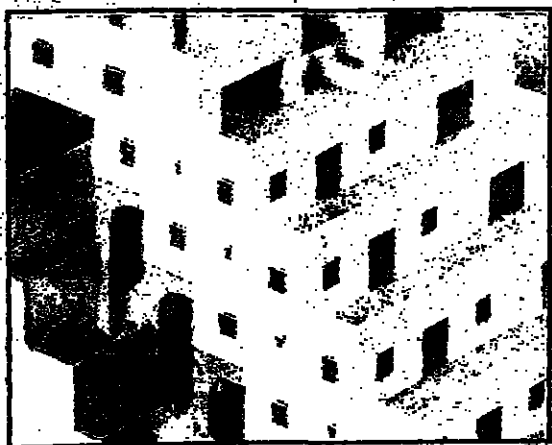
Senators Hank Brown (R-Colorado) and Diane Feinstein (D-Calif.) of the Near East subcommittee will now be the only members traveling. The other six Senators and two Congressmen have dropped out due to scheduling and transit problems, a Senate aide said. Plans to visit Egypt and Morocco have been scrapped.

The Senators are now scheduled to be in Israel next Monday through Wednesday, the aide said. They still intend to visit both the Israeli and Syrian sides of the Golan Heights, he added.

Tank thief appeals conviction

Cpl. Amit Nehemia, convicted last week of taking a tank and going on a rampage along a major highway, appealed the verdict which sentenced him to two years in prison.

The appeal's main substantive argument is that the court martial ignored Nehemia's state of mind and the abuse and humiliation he endured in the unit in which he served.



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'Green wave' threatens to engulf Maccabi TA

MACCABI Tel Aviv, its pride severely dented in the midweek State Cup loss to Maccabi Haifa, will be out to redeem itself against Betar Jerusalem in National League soccer action tomorrow.

Tel Aviv, which leads the league by three points over defending champions Maccabi Haifa, will surely do everything to maintain its margin as the flamboyant "Green Wave" from the north continues to breathe down its neck.

Even though the Jerusalemites are having a less-than-impressive season, they will test the Tel Avivians at Ramat Gan more

ORI LEWIS

thoroughly than Haifa will be at Kiryat Eliezer by Zefirum Holon.

Mid-table Holon is mediocre, and against Haifa in full flow this should be a certain home victory, all the more reason for Tel Aviv to worry.

At the bottom of the table, Ashdod hosts unpredictable Bnei Yehuda, while Herzliya takes on fellow-strugglers Hapoel Beit She'an which is now looking decidedly shaky after a promising start in its first year in the top flight.

Meanwhile, Hapoel Ramat

Gan's future in the Second Division appears uncertain after the IFA's financial inspector, Yair Rabinowitz, decided to suspend the club.

The Ramat Ganis failed to present a proper budget; and after further deadlines passed, the club was suspended until further notice. Opponents Hapoel Jerusalem received a technical win.

This week's National League soccer action (all matches tomorrow at 4:30 pm unless otherwise stated): Betar Tel Aviv v Hapoel Petah Tikva, Ramat Gan 2 pm; Maccabi Haifa v Zefirum Holon, Kiryat Eliezer 6 pm; Maccabi Netanya v Hapoel Tel Aviv; Ironi Ashdod v Bnei Yehuda; Hapoel Beersheva v Ironi Rishon; Maccabi Tel Aviv v Betar Jerusalem, Ramat Gan 4 pm; Maccabi Petah Tikva v Hapoel Haifa; Maccabi Herzliya v Hapoel Beit She'an.

Spring training is in the air

NY's Showalter: 'So far, so good'

FORT LAUDERDALE (Reuter) - Baseball's spring training, the sequel, got under way Wednesday and, at the New York Yankees camp, there was optimism to spare.

Half of the club's 40-man roster was in uniform for what was billed as a "voluntary supervised workout." The first mandatory practice is slated for today.

"So far, so good," said New York manager Buck Showalter. "You can tell everybody's real excited to be back."

Showalter could be excused for seeming somewhat less than enthusiastic, however, having been through opening day of spring training before, just six weeks ago, when there was no end in sight to the players' strike.

That strike finally ended Friday, the replacement players were released, and the major leaguers began trickling into camp Monday. To accommodate them, the start of the regular season was pushed back to April 25.

Most of the big-name players had not reported as of Wednesday, but those who were here participated in the three-hour workout with added enthusiasm.

The Yankees finished the strike-shortened 1994 season with the best record in the American League (70-43) and the men in pinstripes are considered World Series contenders.

"I would think with the way the season ended last year that there would be great expectations coming into this year," Showalter said, adding, "I've had enough of the mediocre expectations of three or four years ago and, so if there's added pressure, I welcome that."

Optimism aside, though, the players know they have their work cut out for them, not only preparing for the regular season in just three weeks, but also trying to win back the fans.

As for the fans, the players will have to go the extra mile to win them back. Outfielder Paul O'Neill took a first step by signing autographs for 10 minutes after practice.



WARMING UP - Atlanta's Tom Glavine pitches during batting practice at Braves' camp in West Palm Beach. (AP)

BIG DEALS

Winfield to Indians

The Cleveland Indians on Wednesday signed veteran free agent outfielder Dave Winfield to a one-year contract.

Winfield, about to begin his 23rd major-league season, spent last season with the Minnesota Twins before being traded to the Indians after the strike began. Winfield hit .252 for the Twins last season with 10 HRs and 43 RBIs.

Valenzuela to Padres

34-year-old Fernando Valenzuela is a six-time All-Star who was the National League Rookie of the Year and the Cy Young Award winner for the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1981.

Valenzuela spent 10 seasons with the Dodgers, going 141-116, and also has pitched for California, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

McRae to Cubs

The Kansas City Royals traded outfielder Brian McRae to the Cubs for two minor-league pitchers.

McRae, 27, batted .273 with four home runs and 40 RBIs last season.

Cone to Blue Jays

Cy Young Award winner David Cone was traded by Kansas City. In return for the three-time NL strikeout champion with the New York Mets, the Royals got three minor league prospects.

Maccabi TA sweeps Hapoel

ELIOT ZIMELMAN

IT may not have been easy, but it's official - Maccabi Tel Aviv will play in the league finals for the 26th straight year following last night's 95-92 overtime victory against Hapoel Tel Aviv in Yad Eliyahu.

The win gives Maccabi a 3-0 sweep in the best-of-five-series, and sends Muli Kazurin's team up against the winner of the second semifinal series between Hapoel Galil Elyon and Hapoel Holon.

Hapoel dominated early, going up 11-4 with the help of big man Ofer Fleisher, who scored seven of his nine points in the game's first three minutes.

Maccabi, led by Radicav Curcic, chipped away, and took the lead midway through the first half. Curcic, who ended the contest with 23 points and 17 rebounds, dominated both ends of the court and gave Maccabi its largest lead of the game at 37-29 with five minutes to go in the half.

Hapoel, however, did not want to be denied the opportunity of stretching the playoff series to a fourth game, and Buck Johnson's 22-footer right before the buzzer gave Yair Sharon's club a 47-45 lead at the half.

Johnson, who started the game with a

thumb injury on his shooting hand, seemed to be in perfect health. His stellar shooting from both inside and outside helped Hapoel maintain a lead over Maccabi throughout the second half, and with a little more than four minutes to go, Hapoel seemed to be in control at 76-69.

At that point, the real game began. A three-point play by Norris Coleman, who finished with 15, cut the lead to 76-72 with 2:50 to go, and he followed with a dunk on a rare fastbreak to move Maccabi to within two, 76-74 with 2:20 left.

Curcic followed up a missed Coleman jumper to tie the score at 76 with 1:30 left, and after a Milton Wagner free throw, Maccabi took its first lead since late in the first half, 78-77, on a Moti Daniel baseline jumper with 52 ticks on the clock.

Johnson answered with a soft 10-footer to put Hapoel up 79-78, but Guy Goodes, who led Maccabi with 27 points, countered to give the team an 80-79 lead. Gilad Katz sank one of two free throws to tie the score at 80 with 27 seconds left, and it remained that way until

the end of regulation. Maccabi took the lead 20 seconds into overtime on Curcic's 3-point play, and the team never trailed again.

With 1:40 to go, Goodes sank two free throws to put Maccabi up 92-88, its largest lead since the 15-minute mark of the first half. A Lior Arditi jumper made it 92-90 with 30 seconds to go and then Goodes sank one of two at the line to give Maccabi a three-point lead.

Johnson, who led the team with 33 points, had a chance to tie the game, but his 3-point attempt with eight seconds left from the corner fell far short and with it Hapoel's chances.

Goodes, who scored a team-high 27 points, including seven of eight free throws in overtime, hit two more from the line, and a Meir Topiro layup was all but academic as Maccabi continued its domination over Hapoel with its 101st victory in derby play.

More importantly, however, the defending champs have the right to retain their crown as they await the winner of the Holon-Galil Elyon series, which continues on Sunday night.

Jordan leads Bulls past Nets with 37

EAST RUTHERFORD (Reuter) - Michael Jordan scored 30 of his 37 points in the second half as the Chicago Bulls won their season-high fifth straight game on Wednesday, 108-101 over the reeling New Jersey Nets.

Jordan made just 2-of-13 shots in the first half but scored Chicago's first seven points of the fourth quarter as the Bulls grabbed a 92-86 lead.

The Nets closed within 102-100 with 2:25 to play but got no closer. Jordan's driving layup with 27 seconds left sealed the victory.

"It was our game to win," Jordan said. "It's really not how you begin a game but how you end it. I haven't really played a good 48-minute game since the New York game (when he scored 55 points)."

"I just have to keep pushing myself to get back to the standards that I'm used to. I had to keep shooting until I could get something going."

BJ Armstrong scored 16 points and Scottie Pippen added 15 as Chicago moved into sole possession of fifth place in the Eastern Conference.

Armon Gilliam scored 27 points with 16 rebounds and Kenny Anderson added 21 points and 15 assists for the Nets, who were playing without injured starters Derrick Coleman and Chris Morris. New Jersey has lost five straight games and nine of the last 10 to fall out of realistic playoff contention.

Coleman has missed the last two games with a strained left wrist, while Morris was placed on the injured list with a strained left hamstring earlier in the day.

"We gave the effort tonight, we just lost our composure down the stretch," said Nets coach Butch Beard. "The team, the organization and the coaching staff is frustrated with this whole season. We just seem to be finding really strange ways to lose. It's tough on everybody."

Magie 129, Pistons 125
Dennis Scott scored 17 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter as his Orlando rallied from an 18-point deficit.

Shaquille O'Neal had 40 points and



CRASH LANDING - Nets guard Rex Walters lands on Michael Jordan as the Chicago Bulls guard was preparing to shoot. (AP)

19 rebounds for the Magic, who have won six of their last eight games. Joe Dumars scored 41 points and Allan Houston 28 for the Pistons, who have lost three of their last four games.

Kaleks 114, Bucks 94
Patrick Ewing scored 34 points and grabbed 18 rebounds as New York rolled to a road win.

Glenn Robinson scored 22 points and Vin Baker added 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Bucks, who have lost four of their last five games to continue to fade from the Eastern Conference playoff picture.

Pacers 102, Bulls 90
Rik Smits scored 29 points and grabbed 10 rebounds as host Indiana sent Washington to its eighth straight defeat.

The Pacers remained a half-game back of New York for second place in the Eastern Conference and three games ahead of Charlotte for first place in the Central Division.

Calbert Cheaney scored 19 points and Chris Webber added 18 points and 14 rebounds for the Bulls. Mavericks 130, Lakers 111
Jason Kidd recorded his first career triple-double with 19 points, 12 as-

sists, and 10 rebounds to help host Dallas snap an eight-game losing streak against the Lakers.

Jamal Mashburn scored 32 points and Lorenz Williams chipped in with a career-high 19 points and 15 rebounds for the Mavericks, who have won 10 of their last 13 games.

Nick Van Exel had 24 points and Eddie Jones scored 22 for the Lakers, who had their three-game winning streak snapped.

Hawks 96, Cavaliers 87

Andrew Lang had 18 points and 13 rebounds while Steve Smith and Grant Long each added 18 points to power the Hawks to a home win.

The Hawks ended a two-game losing streak and won for only the third time in their last nine games.

Hornets 84, 76ers 66
Alonzo Mourning scored 16 points and grabbed 11 rebounds as Charlotte won at home.

Shawn Bradley had 21 points and 13 rebounds for the Sixers, who have lost three straight. Dana Barros extended his streak with one 3-pointer to 49 games.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS:
Atlanta 96, Cleveland 87
Charlotte 84, Philadelphia 66
Indiana 102, Washington 90
Chicago 108, New Jersey 101
Orlando 128, Detroit 125
Dallas 130, LA Lakers 111
New York 114, Milwaukee 94

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
*Orlando	54	19	.740	-
*New York	48	25	.658	6
Boston	30	43	.411	24
Miami	29	46	.382	25.5
New Jersey	27	48	.370	27
Philadelphia	26	53	.324	34
Washington	18	54	.250	35.5

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
*Indiana	48	26	.648	-
*Charlotte	44	28	.611	3
*Chicago	40	33	.548	7.5
*Cleveland	39	34	.534	8.5
Atlanta	36	37	.493	11.5
Milwaukee	28	45	.384	19.5
Detroit	26	48	.351	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
*San Antonio	53	18	.746	-
*Utah	53	21	.716	1.5
Houston	42	30	.583	11.5
Denver	42	30	.583	11.5
Dallas	32	39	.451	21
Minnesota	20	53	.274	34

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
*Seattle	51	21	.708	-
*Portland	51	22	.698	.5
*LA Lakers	48	27	.638	5.5
Portland	38	34	.528	13
Sacramento	35	37	.486	16
Golden State	23	49	.317	28
LA Clippers	15	59	.203	37

*denotes playoff berth.

Arsenal beats Sampdoria

LONDON (Reuter) - Holders Arsenal beat Sampdoria 3-2 in a top-scruffy European Cup Winners' Cup semifinal first leg last night, but face an uphill struggle to become the first club ever to retain the trophy.

Two vital away goals both scored by Yugoslav international Vladimir Jugovic kept Sampdoria's hopes alive after it trailed 2-0 and 3-1 in a match it dominated for long periods.

The second leg in Genoa in two weeks time will be the severest test yet of Arsenal's traditional defensive qualities, but on yesterday's performance, Sampdoria easily looks capable of winning the tie.

Two unlikely goals from veteran center-back Steve Bould and an opportunistic strike from Ian Wright seemed to put Arsenal in control but Jugovic's goals after 51 and 77 minutes changed all that.

Bould, who had only ever scored five goals in 238 appearances for Arsenal over the last seven years, found the net in the 34th and 36th minutes.

Wright scored in the 69th minute to maintain his record of scoring in every European game this season.

In the second semifinal, Real Zaragoza of Spain beat Chelsea 3-0 (halftime 2-0).

Beck leads rainy Masters by 1 stroke

AUGUSTA (Reuter) - Chip Beck, who finished a disappointing second two years ago, took advantage of a rain-softened Augusta National golf course yesterday to lead the first round of the Masters by one stroke.

Beck, who was runner-up to Bernhard Langer in 1993, shot a four-under-par 68 to lead five other players by one shot with about one-quarter of the 86-man field in the clubhouse.

The 38-year-old Beck had it as low as six under par after a birdie on the 15th hole, but he gave back shots on the 16th and 18th holes.

Beck's longest birdie putt was from 20 feet and he chipped in for birdie on the par-three fourth.

The rain softened up a frightfully hard course, answering the prayers of many players who feared they would not be able to stop their approach shots on the greens, which were like billiard tables earlier in the week.

Former champion Ian Woosnam of Britain, Americans Hale Irwin, Scott Hoch and David Edwards and Australian Wayne Grady all took advantage of the favorable conditions to shoot three-under 69s.

Former champion Craig Stadler, 1989 British Open winner Mark Calcavecchia and Jumbo Ozaki of Japan were another shot back at 70.

Hoch made four birdies. His only blemish was a three-putt at number 10 - the same hole where he missed a two-footer in 1989 that would have won a playoff with Nick Faldo. "They had my 1989 pin placement there," Hoch said, only half joking.

Irwin, a three-time winner of the US Open, had the lead all alone at four under par until he bogeyed the final hole.

"I tried not to get too aggressive," said Irwin, who turns 50 in June. "I just tried to play within myself and it paid off until the last hole - my only bogey."

TODAY ON CABLE TV

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 7:30 Bodies in motion 8:00 Bodies in motion 8:30 Brazilian league soccer 10:00 Argentinean league soccer 11:30 (to be announced) 13:30 Spanish league soccer 15:00 WWF 16:00 Bushido 19:35 17:00 Mondial 17:30 Israel soccer magazine 18:00 (to be announced) 20:00 Thai boxing 20:30 Basketball 22:00 European soccer magazine 23:00 English League Cup final: Liverpool vs Bolton

EUROSPORT

8:30 Leisure sport 10:00 Latin dance 11:00 Tennis magazine 11:30 Soccer: semifinal of the European Cup Winners Cup and the UEFA Cup 13:00 Soccer: European Cup semifinal 14:30 Live tennis quarter-final from Portugal 18:00 Live Formula 1 Argentinian Grand Prix qualifiers 19:00 Eurosport news 21:00 International motor racing magazine 22:00 Boxing

23:00 WWF 00:00 Formula 1 Argentinian Grand Prix qualifiers 1:00 Adventure sport 2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORT

6:00 Masters golf, day 1 7:30 Live Asian Cup 1995 cricket: India v Pakistan 16:00 NBA behind the scenes 16:30 NBA: Seattle v Denver 17:20 Mondial 18:00 Masters golf 21:00 Asian Cup 1995 cricket: India v Pakistan 22:00 Live Masters golf, day 2 1:30 NBA behind the scenes

SATURDAY APRIL 8

CHANNEL 5

8:30 Table tennis 9:30 Spanish league soccer 11:00 Mondial 11:30 Premier League soccer 12:30 European soccer magazine 13:30 Volleyball playoffs: Highlights of game 3 between Miaz Asher and Ha'Arakim 14:30 Handball: Mel Elden league playoff 15:30 (no details available) 19:00 WWF 20:00 Thai Boxing 22:00 National League soccer 23:00 Mondial 00:00 Snooker

SPORTS BRIEFS

Tarkanian takes reins at Fresno State

Jerry Tarkanian, the towel-chomping coach with the highest winning percentage in college basketball history, was hired to coach Fresno State, his alma mater.

The former UNLV coach, whose disputes with the NCAA ran for years and reached the Supreme Court, replaces Gary Colson, who resigned March 15 after five seasons.

Tarkanian signed a three-year contract on Wednesday.

His team won the 1990 NCAA championship when UNLV, led by Larry Johnson, routed Duke by 30 points.

PA announcer fired for criticizing ref

A public address announcer was fired during halftime of an English soccer game Wednesday night for criticizing the referee.

Peter Lewis made his feelings known to the crowd after Swindon player-manager Steve McMahon was sent off in the 38th minute of the team's 1-0 loss to Bolton. As the teams left the field at halftime, Lewis said, "I've seen some crap refereeing decisions in my time, but ... " The rest of his comment was drowned out by the crowd.

Plan for Super rugby league unveiled

Media magnate Rupert Murdoch's News Limited group yesterday released plans for an international rugby league Super League competition that will initially involve teams from Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

MSG takes cigarettes out of camera's eye

Sued by the Justice Department, Madison Square Garden agreed to move cigarette advertising signs out of the camera's eye during televised basketball and hockey games and other sports and entertainment events.

The government accused the Garden, which owns the NBA's New York Knicks and the NHL's New York Rangers of violating the Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act by displaying a large Marlboro cigarette sign directly in front of the scorer's table during televised Knicks games.

Ukrainians scoop up all the honors

HEATHER CHAIT

TOP seed Ukrainian Nelly Barkan completed her hat-trick on the \$20,000 Ada Moross women's circuit yesterday by beating fourth-seed Yana Sokolenko from Bulgaria 6-4, 6-3 in the final of the Masters tournament in Tiberias.

Despite the dominant presence of Israeli women in the competition, all four stages were won by Ukrainians with Barkan winning in Jaffa and Ramat Hasharon while her compatriot Tessa Shapovalova stepped in to win the Haifa leg.

To cap the Ukrainian victory, Barkan and Shapovalova also collected the doubles title, beating local players Nanyah Cahana and Oshri Shashua 6-3, 6-4 in the final.

SCOREBOARD

CRICKET - Sri Lanka beat Bangladesh by 167 runs in their Asia Cup tournament match yesterday. Scores: Sri Lanka 233 in 49.4 overs (A.Ramalingam 71, S.Jayasinghe 51; Saifur Islam 4-36); Bangladesh 126 in 44.2 overs (M.Muralkrishnan 4-23).
NFL - Wednesday's results: Hartford 8, Pittsburgh 4; NY Rangers 5, Florida 0; St. Louis 6, Toronto 4; New Jersey 4, Ottawa 0; Montreal 6, Quebec 5; Winnipeg 4, Chicago 1; Detroit 5, San Jose 3; Anaheim 4, Edmonton 3 (OT).

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● And the "law report" Asher Felix Landau's unique review of court cases in the news.

ON TUESDAYS:

● The Arts and Entertainment pages feature Dora Sowden's internationally-acclaimed dance reviews; Naomi Doudai's drama critiques; concert roundups by Benjamin Bar-Am and Ury Epstein; Tower Records' Top 15; reviews of new audio releases by Tizrah Agassal.

ON WEDNESDAYS:

● Money Magazine. The Post's 12-page business supplement.
● The Middle East page brings you an Arab news digest, articles on and by Israel's neighbors.

ON THURSDAYS:

● The Post's "agony aunt" Ruth Blum answers readers' questions.
● Intelligence experts Uri Dan and Dennis Eisenberg give you inside stories of international intrigue.

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Labor takes back Ramon

SARAH HONIG

HISTADRUT Chairman Haim Ramon and 284 other people expelled from the Labor Party yesterday received letters reinstating them.

This follows the party central committee's recent decision to rescind the letters of expulsion to all those who campaigned against Labor in municipal elections since 1989 and in the 1994 Histadrut campaign. This officially opens the door for Ramon and MKs Amir Peretz and Shmuel Avital to rejoin the party.

The letters, signed by party secretary-general Nissim Zivli, informed the recipients that they are now considered members in the Labor Party again, unless they inform the party otherwise within the next 30 days. Ramon last night repeated his position that "Labor's rescinding its letters of expulsion is merely a first step. Our return to Labor is by no means automatic, and it now hinges on the outcome of a very complex set of negotiations."

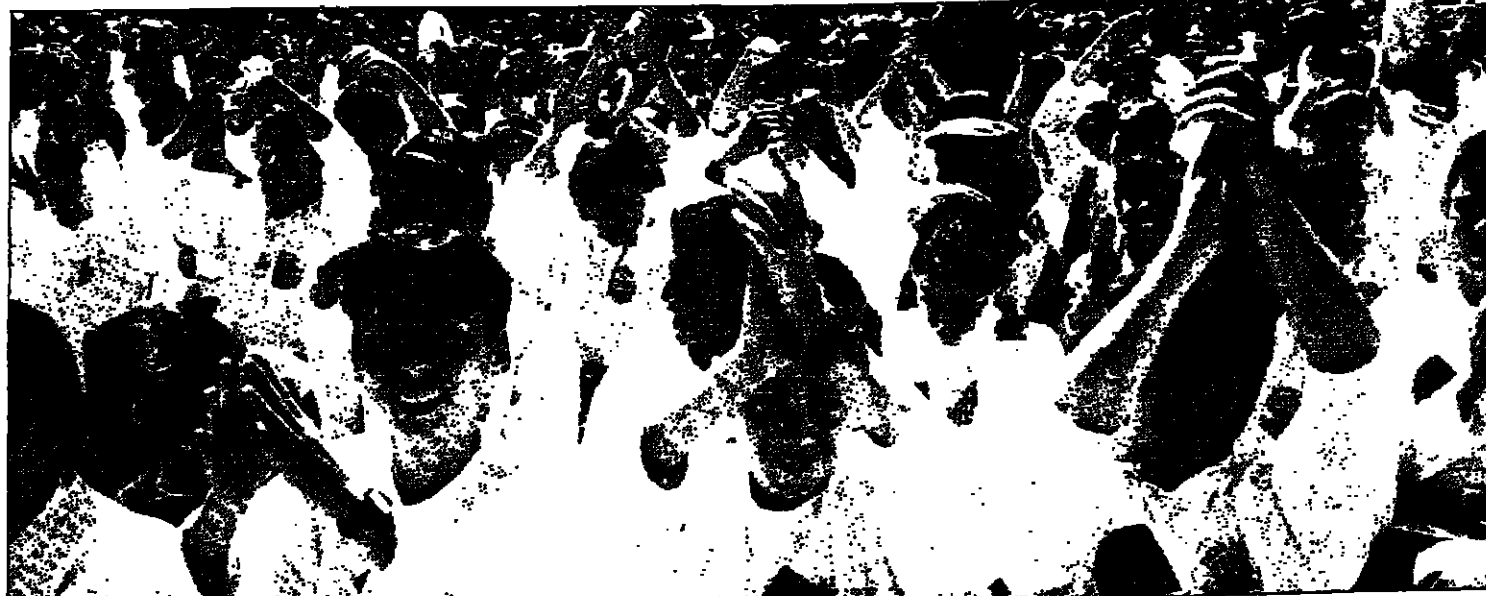
Zivli insisted that he "has no idea any negotiations are involved or necessary here. I don't know of any talks."

Ramon fears that the Labor Party machine will now vindictively unite against him and his allies in the next Knesset primaries. Thus, he insists on either reserving safe Knesset slots for his group or on holding open primaries, in which non-party members will be entitled to participate.

Both options are regarded as unacceptable to the party.

Ramon said this week that, "at this point," he will not make moves to field his own ticket in the next Knesset elections, lest it bring the Likud to power, but he repeated his determination to "make sure that my colleagues are not slaughtered politically."

Labor insiders feel that Ramon will wait as long as he can before reaching a decision, to see whether Labor's electoral prospects improve.



Some of the 1,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union who celebrated their bar/bat mitzva at the Western Wall yesterday. Yosef Gotnik, of Australia, contributed NIS 1.5 million for the ceremony, which the chief rabbis attended. (Isaac Harari)

Likud still at impasse on primary system

MK Matza: Extra time will be used 'to prevail on Levy to join in'

SARAH HONIG

Beersheba area, and Netanyahu is on a holiday for a week in Italy with his wife and two small sons. This puts possible attempts to find a way out of the impasse on a back burner until after Pessah.

The secretariat is to formulate proposals that are to be presented to Netanyahu, and he will then turn them over to the party central committee for its approval.

Netanyahu wants a primary system in which voters will pick all candidates for realistic slots. Levy

wants them to mark candidates for only 60% of the slots, and to allow runners-up with relatively high vote tallies in the primary races to fill the remaining 40% of the slots. This would presumably insure a sizeable representation for his faction on the Knesset list.

Netanyahu is said to fear that this would lead to the operation of a huge faction within the Likud Knesset contingent, and would make it unmanageable.

Sources close to Netanyahu say he will not agree to the voters picking anything less than 80% of the slots. Levy has already called this

"out of the question."

In his recent gathering of supporters in Tel Aviv, Levy dismissed the secretariat's deliberations "because they are meaningless if that one [Netanyahu] decides otherwise."

Others in the Likud fear both Netanyahu and Levy. Thus, MK Ze'ev Binyamin Begin suggested at the secretariat yesterday that to prevent a winner-take-all situation, voters should mark only 10 percent of the slots.

Still others prefer the election of only a panel of candidates, and having the central committee rank them later.

13 air force men charged with gross disobedience

ALON PINKAS

THIRTEEN air force soldiers, all serving as drivers in an anti-aircraft unit, have been charged with gross and rebellious disobedience, dereliction of duty, and behavior unbecoming soldiers.

The indictments, filed in February, were presented yesterday in the Air Force District Military Court.

According to the charge sheet, in June 1994 all 13 disobeyed orders to report for guard duty, violating a variety of rules, regulations, and orders. Furthermore, the indictment charges the soldiers with leaving the base once ordered to report for guard duty.

Four of the defendants - Sgt. Almog Arlaki, Sgt. Uriel Levy, Cpl. Ophir Midler, and Cpl. Avi Abarjil - pleaded guilty and expressed remorse. They will be sentenced early next month. The other nine pleaded not guilty; their trial will resume in May.

3rd SAAR-5 launched

ALON PINKAS

THE navy formally launched its third and, at least for now, last SAAR-5 missile boat in Haifa harbor yesterday.

The ship arrived yesterday afternoon following a three-week journey from the shipyards in Pascagoula, Mississippi, where it was built. It made a short stop in Las Palmas in the Canary Islands.

The *Hanit* (spear) was officially launched by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, and OC Navy Adm. Ami Ayalon.

"This is a tremendous addition to the navy's strength," Rabin said. The *Hanit* will join its two sister ships, which arrived in 1994. The total cost of construction and delivery of the three will be more \$700 million, and was financed through the annual US military grant.

The *Hanit* will become operational within a year, once all combat and electronic systems are installed. She has a crew of 50, and an effective operating range of 3,500 km.

Ofek-3 is fine

ALON PINKAS

ALL the systems of the Ofek-3 satellite are operating properly, though some minor technical adjustments are being made, a senior space industry official said yesterday, as the satellite entered its second day in orbit.

The heads of Mahat, an Israeli Aircraft Industry subsidiary that was central in the planning and launching of Ofek-3, presented Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin with the latest information on the satellite's progress.

"You have upgraded Israel to a higher plain of technological capabilities through your relentless and successful work. This is a nice present to the people of Israel on the eve of Pessah," Rabin told Mahat officials.

According to the information Rabin received, the launching of the Ofek-3 on the Shavit missile was impeccable, the satellite is on its pre-designated course of orbit and it is relaying up-to-date telemetric data to the ground station.

Ofek-3 has already completed over 20 full orbits of Earth.

Russians defend new booster; may offer Israel a free ride

MOSCOW (AP) - Russian officials yesterday staunchly defended a new booster rocket, despite the failure of its maiden flight and the loss of Israel's TechSat satellite.

They said they might offer the Israelis a free launch to make up for the loss.

Two other satellites were also lost when the Start rocket plunged to earth a few minutes after launch on March 28.

"We are very much upset by the results of the launch, but we don't consider it a tragedy," said Yuri Solomonov, the chief designer of the Start, a modified version of the SS-25 intercontinental ballistic missile.

"We have long-term coopera-

tion prospects with Israel, and this was only the first step on this path," Solomonov said. "Our contract doesn't envisage a repeat launch, but we consider it our moral duty to offer the Israelis a compensation for the failure."

He said the Israelis got the first launch at a bargain rate because it was considered experimental.

Solomonov blamed the problem on a new control system, not components adapted from the SS-25.

He said the system turned off the rocket's fourth stage 12 minutes early. As a result, the fifth stage failed to fire and the rocket failed to pick up enough speed to escape the Earth's atmosphere.

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